



Founded in 1901

# THE PORTAL

Volume Eleven, Number Two  
A PUBLICATION OF BALMORAL HALL SCHOOL



*Empower Educate Encourage*

**EXCELLENCE: THE HABIT OF SELF ASSESSMENT AND SELF IMPROVEMENT**



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The Portal, a publication of Balmoral Hall School's Development Office, is distributed to over 4,000 members of the BH Family - alumnae, parents, students, former parents, grandparents and friends of the school.

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**Design, Layout & Production:**  
Bulman Communications Group Ltd.

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1999 – 2000

In June 1999, the Balmoral Hall Family celebrated the ceremonies of the last graduating class of the century. The day also marked the retirement of Diane Bieber, Head of School, and Dr. Ossama AbouZeid, Chairman of the Board of Governors announced his term as chair was ending. Dr. AbouZeid's contribution and tireless efforts will continue to influence our objectives for the future as he continues to be part of the Strategic Planning process. Thank you Ossama.

We begin our 98th year with our new Head, Mrs. Claire Sumerlus, who brings extensive experience and skills to our school. She possesses an in-depth understanding of the demands placed on teachers, students and parents in an educational environment and our school will benefit greatly from her experience and background. We are extremely fortunate to have Claire join our team

and the Board of Governors has great confidence in her ability to lead Balmoral Hall into the new millennium.

It is also my pleasure to welcome Maureen Watchorn, Ken Bicknell, Ryan Smith and Ernie Warkentin to our Board of Governors and I am looking forward to working with them and our entire Board during the next two years.

Personally, I am very proud to be a part of the Balmoral Hall Family and I am committed to working closely with our very active Parent Association who have worked so hard on behalf of the school over the years. Linda Mitchell and her committee spend a great deal of time planning and implementing fundraising events and I encourage all parents to get involved and support their hard work and efforts.

And finally to our Students and Teaching Staff, let's bring in the 21st century successfully by working hard "together."

*Gene D. Dunn*  
Chair, Board of Governors



## CESI - Evaluation and Renewed Accreditation

"The purpose of the Canadian Educational Standards Institute is to develop and promote high educational standards for schools in Canada and to foster compliance hereto, while recognizing the independence, integrity and uniqueness of its individual member schools." CESI: Standards for Accreditation of Schools.

**In 1991, Balmoral Hall School became the first school in western Canada to achieve full accreditation by the Canadian Educational Standards Institute.** What makes this an important benchmark for the Balmoral Hall community is that every 7 years this accreditation must be earned through an in-depth evaluation

process. In January 1999, Judith Steek, Director of Junior School began the task of preparing an Internal Evaluation Report. Staff, Board members, parents and students, over 9 months and countless hours have assessed how we do things at BH. They have compiled a report with recommendations to improve areas of weakness and acknowledgement of our many strengths.

This September, the CESI Team received their report and on October 31st this team of 14 people, representing other Canadian independent schools, will spend 3 days experiencing every aspect of BH life. This will include everything from attending classes to joining students and faculty for lunch, to one on one meetings with staff, students, alumnae and parents.

Their official report will take several weeks to assemble and return with recommendations. The beauty of this process of self-evaluation is that many changes and improvements have already begun. The final report will serve as an important tool for our Head, Staff and the Board in setting priorities for Balmoral Hall School as we strive for excellence: the habit of self assessment and self improvement.

# STRATEGIC PLAN

## Balmoral Hall School

### Strategic Plan

#### Executive Summary

Gene Dunn -

Chair, Board of Governors

For nearly 100 years, Balmoral Hall has positioned itself as a leader in the education of girls and young women. True to its traditions, **the school has focused on enriching the lives of students, alumnae, staff and parents.** As we enter the new millennium, we realize the enormous responsibility of ensuring that Balmoral Hall continues to open its doors and its heart to the eager students who look to us for guidance.

With the goals of the 1995 Strategic Plan, 2001: Revisioning the Future, having been achieved well ahead of schedule, it became essential for the school to undertake a careful planning process to ensure this **extraordinary learning community** continues to lead the way for educational achievement in the face of a dynamic and ever changing global environment. This process which began in the spring of 1998, has involved a tremendous effort, and has culminated in the creation of a living Strategic Plan for Balmoral Hall's future direction.

Integral to the Plan's evolution have been the numerous strategy sessions involving staff, students, parents, board members and alumnae. These sessions are not over. A great deal of further work remains to be done to develop this Plan beyond the visionary stage achieved with the last Strategic Plan. This work is critical in continuing to evolve the culture at Balmoral Hall.

The Plan presents a new Mission Statement that we believe not only reflects the basic thrust of the school's past Mission Statement, but that also emphasizes several additional key concepts. These are highlighted in the Plan but two phrases are worthy of additional emphasis. The first is the idea of each student **"achieving their personal best"** - a goal that is highly individualistic and that requires a unique and personalized approach by the school for each student. The second

is the **"education of the whole child"**

- a concept that recognizes that the school has a responsibility to provide its students with a complete education that encourages students to develop **skills in learning how to relate to people, learning how to learn and learning how to choose.**

Curriculum encompasses all facets of the educational efforts of the school including academics, athletics, arts and life skills. The Plan proposes increasing the School's emphasis on Language Arts, Math, Science, and Social/Global Studies while sustaining the School's commitment to Athletics and the Arts. All educational activities will also strive to impart to each student certain life skills such as interpersonal skills and learning skills. At Balmoral Hall, **curriculum includes all learning activities provided during a school day.** This includes recess, lunch, before and after school programs.



# STRATEGIC PLAN



**Culture** refers to the overall experience Balmoral Hall provides to its students, parents and staff and recognizes that this intangible quality is perhaps one of the most important and enduring elements of the school. It is also one of the major differences between Balmoral Hall and other educational alternatives. While plans to date are still in the development stage, a clear recognition has identified that communication and interaction between and among students, staff and parents must increase dramatically in both quality and quantity.

**Sustaining excellence** focuses on ensuring that Balmoral Hall continues to meet the expectations of students, parents and staff. In particular, the Plan highlights some initiatives and ideas to visibly demonstrate and to continue to

develop the talents and skills of the School's staff. We recognize that sustaining a leadership position requires a commitment by the School and our staff to ongoing training and professional development with an emphasis on supporting the Mission Statement of the School.

The Strategic Plan also outlines goals for the utilization and **ongoing development of the School's unique facilities**, one of Balmoral Hall's major strengths and major advantages relative to other schools. Priority is, of course, given to educational activities of the students, but additional alternatives that are being explored are also outlined. These include summer and after school programs, workshops, rental of facilities, etc. An overall plan for Aikins House is also outlined that includes its renovation and subsequent utilization as a museum and meeting/working facility for students, staff, alumnae and Parent Association.

The final area of the Plan is funding, which encompasses both Operational Funding (Enrollment) and Fundraising. Enrollment goals are outlined for both Canadian and International (residence) students and marketing plans are proposed for retention of current students and the attraction of new students. The Plan also proposes the addition of

another JK class within the next two years and the possibility of a Nursery Program within five years. Fundraising goals and plans are also outlined and include the introduction of Annual Giving and Planned Giving Campaigns over the next three years as well as the pursuit of Foundation and Government Grants, and in the long term, the evolution of an Endowment Program.

In summary, this Strategic Plan proposes a direction for the school over the next three to five years. This Plan will continue to be developed through ongoing efforts involving students, staff, parents and alumnae. We believe though, that **the Mission and basic goals will guide Balmoral Hall** as it moves towards the Centennial in 2001 and beyond.



## Excellence: the Habit of Self Assessment and Self Improvement

**Claire Sumerlus**  
Head of School

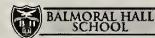
This year is off to an incredible start. We are all energized and looking forward to a very successful year. Our emphasis as stated in our Mission Statement is to *"educate, encourage, and empower our girls and young women to achieve their personal best"*. We are focusing on the education of the whole child. We hope our students will develop skills in learning how to relate to people, learning how to learn and learning how to choose.

### School/Family/Community Partnerships Educating the Children We Share

Joyce L. Epstein

#### **Six types of involvement; Six ways of caring.**

Parenting	-child-rearing skills, family support, child development
Communicating	-re: school programs and student progress -2-way dialogue
Volunteering	-volunteers, audiences, field trips, etc.
Learning at Home	-homework, extra curricular, etc.
Collaborating with Community	-coordinate work and resources of businesses, agencies, cultural/civic organizations, universities.



*Claire Sumerlus*  
*The New Head of School*

# HEAD OF SCHOOL

We use a variety of proactive, preventative strategies to help our students become self-directed and self-disciplined. Our goal is for our students to become "*lifelong learners*", and acquire the five dimensions of learning. These dimensions include confidence and independence, experiences, skills and strategies, knowledge and understanding and the ability to reflect.

We have defined excellence as the habit of self assessment and self improvement. We will be continually assessing and improving on everything we do. The Strategic Plan will be an ever changing, ever evolving working document with input sought from Parents, Students, Staff, Alumnae and the Board.

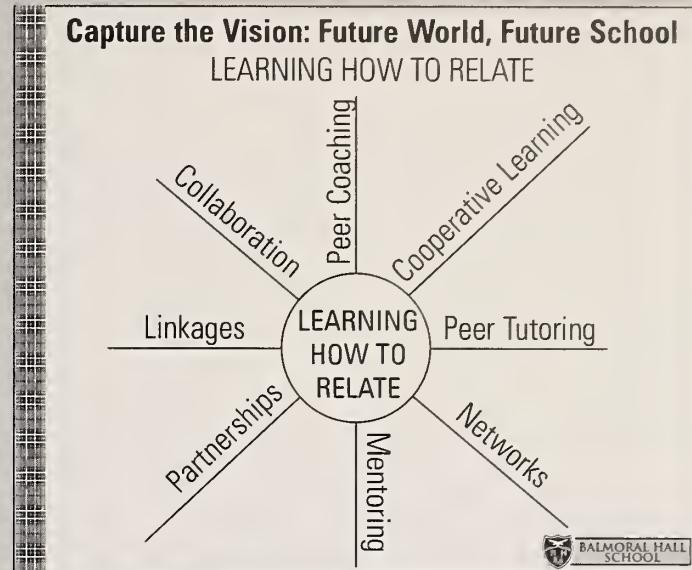
This year, the Staff worked hard for the first three days setting up goals within an "*Effective Schools*" structure based on the correlates for effective schools. We set out four areas that incorporate all the correlates and began setting goals. The four areas were school structure/working as a team, safe and orderly environment, academic excellence/co-curricular activities and home/school partnership.

We will be focusing on :

- having a common philosophy with shared values and beliefs
- building a school team
- clearly articulated goals
- communication
- building respect and pride in the school
- positive school climate
- implementation of new curricula
- assessing and evaluating student progress as a vehicle for improving student achievement
- a common thread in Math from JK - S4
- the Joyce Epstein Model for Parent Involvement
- parent participation in school discussions and decisions
- communication with parents
- home/school partnership

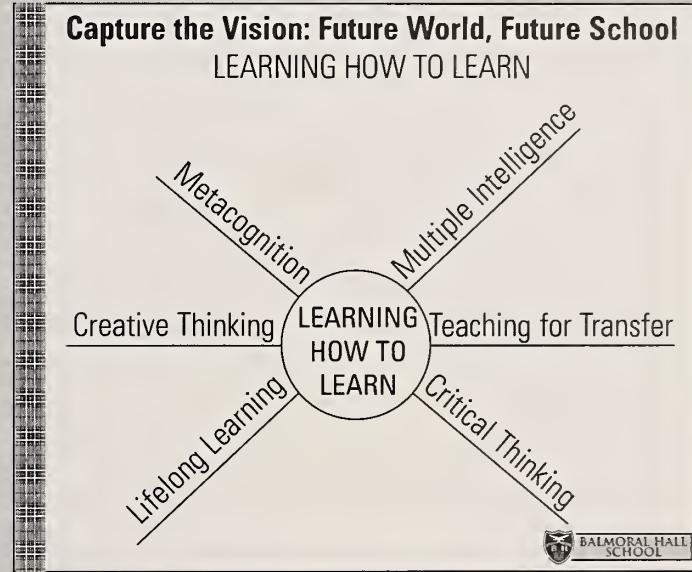
## Capture the Vision: Future World, Future School

LEARNING HOW TO RELATE



## Capture the Vision: Future World, Future School

LEARNING HOW TO LEARN



## Capture the Vision: Future World, Future School

LEARNING HOW TO CHOOSE

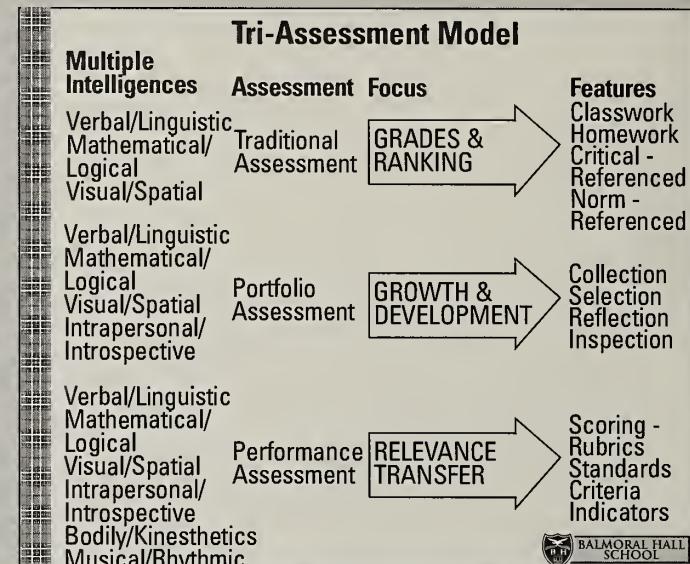


# HEAD OF SCHOOL

When we look at assessment we will be looking at the Tri-Assessment Model. This includes three types of assessment. Traditional assessment often focuses on grades, grade point averages, and rankings. Included in traditional assessments are classwork, homework, criterion-referenced and standardized measures.

Portfolio assessment tends to focus on the growth and development of student potential. Phases of the portfolio development process include collecting and selecting items, reflecting on the significance of the items as indicators of growth, and inspecting the portfolio for signs of progress.

Performance assessment focuses on the direct observance of a student's performance. Procedures for using performance assessment effectively include developing scoring rubrics and using predetermined standards, criteria, and indicators. We will also be looking at multiple intelligences which is the different ways children learn.



*"The multiple intelligences theory allows one to assess the talents and skills of the whole individual"*

## Best Practices for the Learner-Centered Classroom

A definition of Education for the 21st Century must include educating the whole human being. *"A well-rounded person must be schooled in all the knowledge necessary to be successful and productive in all of the human domains - Intellectual, Emotional, Psychological, Social, Physical, and Spiritual."*

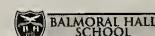
We hope you will find that we are providing high quality learning opportunities through coordinated curriculum, instruction, and assessment to enhance each student's performance.

**I look forward to the many challenges ahead this year.  
Remember that my door is always open.**

## Fundamentals of Emotional Intelligence

Daniel Goleman

Self-Awareness	Knowing what you feel and using your gut sense to make decisions you can live with happily.
Management of Feelings	Controlling impulses, soothing your anxiety, having anger that is appropriate.
Motivation	Zeal, persistence and optimism in the face of setbacks.
Empathy	Reading and responding to unspoken feelings.
Social Skill	Handling emotional reactions in others, interacting smoothly, managing relationships effectively.



After an exciting first week of school, lots of change has occurred! The Prefects have had the opportunity to work together and brainstorm ideas for activities throughout the year. With the theme this year being "Reach," we hope that all students and staff will do just that. This school year is important to us, rounding the end of BH's first century of existence and the end of the millennium. We want to encourage our fellow

students to "reach for the stars," "reach out," "reach to remember," "reach for school spirit" and "reach for tomorrow." We chose these themes to focus on areas that we hope to concentrate on this year. These being: **school spirit, tradition, pride, family and future.**

to participate as each person adds something unique to every experience and we hope everyone has fun along the way. Have a great year!

*Erin Palmer*  
Head Girl

The Prefects are very excited about this year and have some great events planned. We will encourage all students

## The Prefects



### 1999-2000 Prefects

**Behind students:** (l-r): Lee Anderson, Service Learning Coordinator; Heather Westdal, Middle & Senior School Coordinator of Student Programs

**Back row (l-r):** Joanna Fultz (*School Captain*), Lauren Thiessen (*Glen Gairn House Head*), Sarah Coates (*Arts Prefect*), Erin Palmer (*Head Girl*), Georgia Louridas (*Craig Gowan House Head*), Cindy Hnatyshyn (*Community Service Prefect*)

**Front row (l-r):** Kyla Caners (*Middle School Head Girl*), Elyse Joubert (*Middle School Sports Captain*), Simona Ioffe (*Ballater House Head*), Kelly Tse (*Residence Prefect*), Maegan Rutherford (*Sports Captain*), Laura Fletcher (*Braemar House Head*)

# ACHIEVEMENTS

## 1999 Manitoba Historical Society Awards

### Junior School:

Poster:  
Victoria Sweatman - 1st place  
Trappist Monastery

Project:  
Kristy Slough - 1st place  
A Family History

Vanessa Mancini - 2nd place  
A Walk in the Park

Laura Hooker - 3rd place  
The History of the Royal Winter Fair

Model:  
Lana Belton - 1st place  
The Farms of Ukrainian Immigrants

Annika Narotam - Honourable Mention  
Buffalo Hunt

Historical Fiction:  
Paloma Corrin - Honourable Mention  
Dr. Charlotte Ross

### Middle and Senior School:

Posters:  
Melanie Hnatyshyn - 2nd  
Jennifer Reimer - 3rd  
Mhelanni Gorre - 3rd

Projects:  
Carissa Nikkel - 1st  
Amber Bewza - 3rd

Research Paper:  
Hilary Moir - 1st  
Sheryl McLaughlin - Honourable Mention  
Candice Donnelly - 2nd

Model:  
Jessica Dilts - 2nd  
Rachel Corrin - 3rd

Historical Fiction:  
Laura Fletcher - 1st

Poster/Painting:  
Eun Woo Cho - 3rd

## Canadian National Mathematics League

The Grade 8 girls did extremely well on the CNML competition. They ranked 3rd in the Manitoba Region. Dena El-sayed ranked 9th in Manitoba

## Red River Exhibition Awards

First Prize - Crystal Li  
Second Prize - Lesley Robertson, Kelsey Mills, Crystal Li  
Third Prize - Catherine De Torres

Award of Merit - Eun Woo Cho (Eun Woo also won second prize in the adult competition) and Kelly Tse

Point of Praise - an award recognizing an outstanding point in a piece of work:  
Sarah Briggs, Jennifer Reimer, Kathleen Stone, Melanie Hnatyshyn, Amanda Salaam, Chanpreet Singh, Lauren Bachynski

## BH Receives National Physical Education Award

Balmoral Hall has achieved the School Recognition Award for Quality Daily Physical Education (QDPE) in 1998-99.

**This achievement is the highest Canadian standard for school Physical Education** as established by the Canadian Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (CAHPERD).

*"Winning this national award is truly a significant achievement." Stated Dr. Colin Higgs, CAHPERD President. "Schools reaching this level are the only ones providing the Physical Education programs necessary for the healthy growth and development of our children. Research indicates that those who develop knowledge, skills, and positive attitudes towards physical activity in their youth go on to live healthier more active lives as adults. Balmoral Hall is providing this opportunity to its students!"*

BH is one of 649 winners in Canada who have attained this status. Fewer than 5% of Canadian schools qualify for the QDPE Award each year. It is indeed an honour!





...fulfilled  
e of my  
personal goals."

# Congratulations

## Student Achievement at the Canada Wide Science Fair

by *Carissa Nikkel '02*

This year, I was privileged to attend two different and equally interesting science fairs that displayed the talented scientific minds of our future. The Manitoba Schools Science Symposium (MSSS) in April and the Canada Wide Science Fair (CWSF) in May were both worthwhile experiences that gave me the opportunity to expand my knowledge in different areas of science.

For my Science Fair Project, I studied the effect that different lengths of a needle had on the control of blood glucose levels in an insulin dependent diabetes mellitus patient. Specifically, I evaluated whether the use of a short (5 mm) or long (12 mm) needle had any influence on my blood glucose levels. In order to evaluate this, I monitored and recorded my blood glucose levels for one month while using a 12 mm long needle. I then repeated this procedure utilizing a 5 mm needle. From the results that I obtained, I was able to conclude that the length of the needle is a definite factor in the control of my blood glucose levels. The data clearly displayed that the percentage of my blood glucose levels within my desired target range increased during the utilization of the 5 mm needle as compared to the 12 mm needle.

On April 25, I was fortunate to become one of the Grand Prize Science Fair winners receiving a gold medal for my project, and a trip to Edmonton sponsored by the Economic and Innovation Council to represent Balmoral Hall and the MSSS at the Canada Wide Science Fair. This trip was truly an honour to receive as it fulfilled one of my personal goals.

On May 16, three other participants from the MSSS, a chaperone and I boarded a plane to travel to Edmonton for the CWSF. When we arrived in Edmonton, we were greeted with a huge banner and many of the fair organizers. All of the participants were judged by a number of judges for many different awards on Monday and Tuesday. I was judged sixteen times by twenty-two judges. Our evenings were rewarding with special activities, which included a large opening banquet with more than a thousand participants, chaperones, organizers and sponsors and a visit to the Edmonton Space and Science Centre.

On May 21, everyone travelled to the Winspear Building for an awards ceremony which I will never forget. I was honoured to receive one of the three bronze medals presented in the Intermediate Life Sciences Category. It was special to be part of the Canada Wide Science Fair. This wonderful day ended with an enormous banquet where everyone had a great time celebrating our week together. The following morning was said with many tears as we said goodbye to our new friends. The trip to the CWSF is an experience that I will always remember.



Puerto Rican students visiting  
the BH Art Exhibition

## A World United Through Art

by *Lois Peterer*

In January, BH received an invitation from Baldwin School in Puerto Rico to enter an international art exhibition which was held between April 20 - May 5, 1999.

It sounded like an exciting idea so with the help of Signy Thordarson, many e-mails were sent between Baldwin School and BH over a 4 month period. Christina Kowalec decided to come on board and between the two of us we sent 20 pieces of art from Grades 5 & 6 and a Grade 4 class piece based on an Emily Carr painting.

We also sent the book "If You're Not From The Prairie" as a gift from our BH library along with some BH, city and provincial pins. The art work, library book and pins were very well received as stated in one of the e-mails sent back to us.

"One of the packages arrived! GREAT WORK!!!!!! Thank you for the beautiful book. I am sure it will be enjoyed by all my students. We will place it in one of the special places in the exhibition with one of the pins. I wore one today and everybody asked about it. Your work also was received with photographs and curiosity. The way children were portrayed in the winter scenes is absolutely gorgeous!! They were sent to be framed today."

Colored hugs,  
*Socorro*

This was an interesting and enriching venture and we were pleased to have the art work of many of our girls travel to such a wonderful exhibition.

## Now is the Worst Time to be Alive

Anna Penner, Simmy Bhullar and Hallie Gyles competed in two rounds of impromptu parliamentary debate in May 1999 at Fort Richmond Collegiate. The resolutions were "*Barbie has done more harm than good*" and "*Now is the worst time to be alive.*" Our team performed exceptionally well, winning both of their debates handily. Hallie received some very respectable scores considering it was only her second time at a tournament. As usual, Simmy executed her points with precision and received two marks in the 90s. In her debate about the negative effects of Barbie, Anna earned a perfect "100" which placed her as the top individual debater at the tournament. Excellent job, BH girls!

## A Weekend in Victoria Brings BH Debating Prizes

Four BH Debaters, Anna Penner, Lauren Seaman, Sarah Marantz and Jillian Newfield attended the annual "*Peacock Tournament*" at Glenlyon Norfolk School in Victoria, British Columbia. They competed in the categories of impromptu cross-examination debating, impromptu speaking, persuasive speaking and interpretive reading. Keeping with our excellent scores in the past three tournaments (BH has had 1st place in the last three tournaments in at least one category if not all), Anna Penner finished first in persuasive speaking and interpretive reading and second overall. Lauren Seaman had the second highest Grade 8 score. Sarah and Jillian each achieved very high scores. We are very proud of their accomplishments, and as a judge remarked recently, "*it looks as if BH has a dynasty on its hands.*"

## Students Represent BH with Class and Charisma

BH was proud to send Sarah Coates to the National Debating Seminar in Nanaimo and Victoria, British Columbia. She and six other Manitobans competed in Parliamentary, Cross-examination and Academic-style debating. Because it was a "*seminar*," much of our time was spent learning about the main topic of the tournament, namely native land claims. A lawyer for the case of native land claims and a former member of the BC parliament gave strong cases for and against the resolution. "*There should be provincial*

*referendums before any ratification of native land claims.*" Students were given the opportunity to ask two questions and the discussion became very lively and spontaneous debate combusted within the workshop.

Our time in Nanaimo was also spent doing prepared debates. In Victoria, Sarah participated in several rounds of impromptu debate as well as an evening of "*effective speaking*" where she qualified for the final round! We were all very pleased to hear her speak on a boat during the banquet on the final evening. Congratulations Sarah for a job well done!



## Top Grade 8 Debater in Province

BH sent a young but promising group of Grade 7 and 8 students consisting of Amanda Huminicki, Kyla Belton, Thea Hoogstraten, Lauren Seaman, Meredith Tapper, Crystal Morrish, Meghan Fejes and Kyla Caners to the Junior High Provincials in April. The topic of the prepared rounds was "*Canada should abandon socialized medicine.*" There was also one round of impromptu parliamentary debate.

Special congratulations to Amanda Huminicki for becoming the top Grade 8 debater in the province. Amanda was selected as one of six students representing Manitoba at the National Junior High Debating Championship in Montreal.

## First Place at the Douglas Campbell Public Speaking Competition

Balmoral Hall sent a group of public speakers to this tournament in April. Jill Akman, Meredith Tapper, Anna Penner and Simmy Bhullar competed in the persuasive speaking category. Crystal Bewza and Allison Pigden competed in the impromptu speaking category. Special congratulations to Anna Penner, who spoke in the final round of a large crowd of public speakers, politicians and educators. She made a convincing case against book banning and parental involvement in school curriculum. In fact, her argument was so convincing that she won first place.

# ALUMNAE PROFILES

## Just to Catch Up...

Hi Alana. My name is Geneviève. I work in the Alumnae Office at Balmoral Hall and understand that you were in Prince Albert competing in badminton at the Western Canada Summer Games.

*Yes I was.*

Tell me all about it...

*Well...badminton at the Western Canada Games is a team event. I played singles and doubles for Manitoba.*

And how did you do?

*Team Manitoba won gold!*

Who did you play doubles with?

*I played with 2 other Team Manitoba players, Heidi Struck and Leah Walz.*

How long have you been playing?

*I've played for 11 years at the Winnipeg Canoe Club.*

Do you still play there?

*Yeah, and I have the same coach too, Archie Chawba.*



Seen here is Alana Miller ('99), flag bearer for Team Manitoba at the 1999 Western Canada Summer Games. Alana spent 5 days in Prince Albert competing in the doubles and singles badminton competition.

*Winnipeg Free Press; July 7, 1999; Joe Bryksa; reprinted with permission*

Did you play badminton at school too? *I didn't really play high school badminton, but I've been competing at the National Level since I was 14.*

Wow! So you were also the flag bearer in Prince Albert. How was that?

*It was an honour to carry the flag. I was proud.*

Sounds like you've travelled across the country quite a bit to compete. *I've competed in Canada as well as in Mexico and Brazil.*

So what are you doing next year?

*I'm not playing badminton next year...I have chosen to play squash instead.*

Have you played squash for a long time?

*About as long as badminton, but in squash, I am able to compete at a higher level, and win prize money playing in Senior Womens' Tournaments.*

Are you going to school too?

*I am studying Sciences at the University of Winnipeg. Last year I went to the University of Manitoba.*

So you are going into your second year?

*Yes.*

Did you find that your courses at BH helped you with your first year? Did you take any AP courses? *I took AP Math. I guess it helped with Calculus and Physics.*

Are you going to a lot of Pan Am events this summer?

*Actually, I almost made it to the Pan Am Games! I ranked 6th on the Squad, but only the first 4 compete.*

That is so cool!

*Thanks. I am a badminton volunteer at the Convention Centre as a "Score Flipper".*

"Score Flipper?"

*Yeah. I also have tickets to many events...squash, tennis, beach volleyball, handball, gymnastics and cycling.*

Great! Do you keep in touch with some of your classmates?

*Some of them. I keep in touch with Alexis Cloutier, Marianne Chatzoglou and a few others.*

Well thanks for taking the time to talk. Good luck next year!

*Thanks.*

## Tammy Garrett '92

by Heather Emberley

BH alumnae volunteers are very important members of the BH family and Tammy Garrett's enthusiastic spirit of giving back to her school is heartwarming. "BH gave me so much, I like to give back" says Tammy. "I gained confidence while I was there, something I did not have before." It was by being a Prefect and Sports Captain that Tammy learned organizational skills which serve her well today. While at BH, Tammy immersed herself in all aspects of BH life. She joined teams and participated in musicals.

Through the school she believes she "had opportunities I wouldn't have had

*anywhere else, such as travelling to Japan, Hong Kong, Florida and Washington. Because of my diverse background I am always being asked where I went to school," reflects Tammy.*

There is "something about BH that keeps me coming back," says the S3 and S4 Varsity Basketball Coach. She's been an alum Fashion Show participant and mentor to students. Her advice to young women is to "keep as many doors open as possible and to volunteer." This summer Tammy did just that by giving her time to Athletic Services at the Pan Am Games.

After taking courses in Physical Education & Recreation Studies,

Tammy is currently Assistant to the Director of Q94FM and Talk Radio 1290. One of her most successful undertakings is the sixty-hour radio-a-thon for the Children's Wish Foundation, Christmas Miracle project. Under her direction this venture far exceeded its goals. Tammy plans to pursue course work in marketing and business with the career goal of working in management and as a consultant. "To this day BH continues to open doors for me," states Tammy and in turn she offers BH students the opportunity to volunteer at radio sponsored events.

Tammy Garrett believes that, "BH will always be a part of my life," and we are most fortunate to have her as part of ours.



## Excerpt from Diane Bieber's Message at the Middle & Senior School Closing Exercises

Thursday, June 17, 1999

To all of the 1999 grads, you are a credit to Balmoral Hall and its traditions. We work hard to create an environment in which girls will thrive and become confident in their abilities. Our goal is not simply to teach a curriculum - although we are certainly proud of our academic programs and consider them to be the best anywhere. But we also endeavour to instill a sense of "self," along with an appreciation of "community," and an understanding of the joys and responsibilities these things carry. And **we strive to nurture a curiosity and thirst for continuous learning** that will ensure BH grads are never overwhelmed by the rapid pace of change that the 21st century will continue to bring.

Someone once said that success is when "*the excellent becomes the permanent*". **What I see before me in the graduating class of 1999 is a group of truly excellent individuals.** And as individuals, each of you will have a very different definition of what comprises success in your own life. But, whatever you aspire to, I have no doubt that you all have the resources within you to make the excellent become the permanent, and to challenge yourselves so that this year's theme; "*Be All That You Can Be;*" becomes your lifelong quest.

*"Continuity gives us roots; change gives us branches, letting us stretch and grow and reach new heights."*

Your BH experience has given you an excellent start on your journey through life. Not just the academic lessons you've learned but also the ability to make good use of that learning - the social and leadership skills, the personal insights, and of course, the friendships.



Now that you are alumnae, we hope you will continue to think of Balmoral Hall and that you will stay in touch.

As Pauline Kezer said, "*Continuity gives us roots; change gives us branches, letting us stretch and grow and reach new heights.*" Congratulations graduates, as you branch out and reach for the sky. Best wishes to all. Thank you and goodbye.

## Colleen Bennett, Guest Speaker

### Excerpt from Closing Exercises June 17, 1999

Good morning to everyone here today. I am so very honoured to be here with you on this significant day. I am delighted to share in your celebrations, your relief at what you have come through, and your anxiety about what comes next!

What does come next? We don't know. We don't know what lies ahead of us or where life will take us. It took me from Winnipeg to the West Coast, the East Coast and a lot of small places in between. It took me from jobs in sales and retail to the restaurant and hotel trade where I earned a good income, had a great social life but didn't have much job satisfaction.

**"If you show enough enthusiasm for your ideas, others will believe in them too."**

My mother, as mothers do, gave me a small book entitled "*Do what you love and the money will follow*". It had some good advice! Advice that stressed the importance of knowing what you wanted from life and having a supportive family. So at 32 years of age I decided to make a change. I knew what I wanted from life - to be a happy person and to do something creative. I decided to be a chef!

I enrolled in a professional cooking course. With a certificate in my hand, hope in my heart and my heart in my mouth, I tried for work as an apprentice chef. After being passed over for the younger and male job applicants in the more desirable restaurants, I turned to friends who were running a



successful Michelin starred restaurant in Belfast. They agreed to take me on. My folks helped with a plane ticket. I had to say good-bye to family and friends and in almost no time at all I arrived in Belfast.

**I learned the value of friendship** and to appreciate the support of my family. My employer asked me to take charge of the kitchen in their new venture... a small café in the heart of Belfast. It was an exciting time. I found I loved the pressure, and the responsibility.

I had always dreamed of having my own restaurant. Stephen, my partner, shared my dream and together we began to look for a suitable location. I continued to work in various restaurants, as a chef, as a waitress and as a manager, to get as much experience as I could. After several false starts, Stephen and I found what we were looking for. We had no idea of the many decisions that had to be made, let alone convincing the bank manager and ourselves that we were doing the right thing.

Fontana has just celebrated its first year in business. We've been included in the 1999 edition of the Bridgestone guide, titled "The Top 100 Restaurants in Ireland" with a special footnote giving

our room the listing the best place to be seen in. We most recently had the Canadian Minister for Foreign Trade, the Honourable Sergio Marchi host a lunch with us for Northern Ireland's leading businessmen and women.

Fontana Restaurant has taught me the importance of believing in your ideas and that if you show enough enthusiasm for them, others will believe in them too. It has shown me the value of friends and family, for all I needed to do was ask. People love to help if only they are asked. I learned the importance of a strong foundation built on education and experience. But most of all I learned to believe in myself and that only then could I make my dream a reality!

**"I learned the importance of a strong foundation built on education and experience."**

Soon it will be the end of the nineteen hundreds. We are about to start a new century and a new millennium. Balmoral Hall has given you, the class of '99, a brilliant foundation and friends to support you. The possibilities for your future are unlimited. Only you can know what your dream is and you don't know where it might take you. The possibilities for all of you are breath taking .. so take a deep breath and go!

# VALEDICTORY ADDRESS

**"The Best Possible Resource of All...Self-Confidence"**

## Kristen Gale, 1998/99 Head Girl

I walked into this school the first day of Grade Nine, not knowing anyone and not knowing what lay ahead. But here I am, standing in front of you today, as Head Girl and Valedictorian. It can truly be said that nothing in the world can take the place of perseverance.

Since that first day of Grade Nine, I felt completely at home. My Mom waited outside for me on that first day to see if I would be making an early departure, and as you can see she's still here waiting for my departure but under quite different circumstances.

**To the faculty and staff:** I will never be able to express how much we will miss you and what each of you means to us. We have been very lucky to have had such great educators as our mentors. Some have been like surrogate moms to us. You have time and time again gone beyond the call of duty. It was your diligence and attentive hand that have molded, guided and prepared us for the future ahead, and for this dedication I thank you. I know I speak for all the graduates when I thank you for being so much more than teachers, I thank you for being our friends.

**To the friends and family of the graduating class and especially our parents:** If teachers are guidance, then you surely are the love and support that has held us aloft. Your care and encouragement have fostered a strong sense of self worth, which we will carry throughout our future endeavours. Your love and compassion have helped us prepare for the biggest test of all - independence. Regrettably, we must

loosen the ties with those who have helped us along the way and start down the road of life, meeting the obstacles we encounter with determination and courage. Some might struggle more than others, but we will pass the test, because if we weren't able to surmount challenges, we wouldn't be here today. Thank you for instilling the drive to do our best and providing us with the best possible resource of all - self-confidence.

**Finally, to my dear friends, my fellow graduates:** BH for me really has been an extension of my family. Being the only girl in my family, I can proudly say that I have many sisters at school and that you mean so much to me. There has never been a time when I didn't want to get up and go to school. I never felt any pressure to be someone that I wasn't. I could come and just be myself. I don't know what other high schools are like but I can safely say that there is something truly special about the way BH works. I know that it's not every school where the different grades mix as easily and there are many different kinds of friendships. I know that these years would not have been as special for today's graduates if we didn't have the love and support of the rest of our student body. I hope you never forget your past at BH, the friends you have made, the friends you have lost or the love you have found.

Here we stand at the dawning of our adult lives and uncertain futures. We are the last BH graduating class of the twentieth century. It can truly be said that they save the best for last! Mark Twain said, "*Never let your schooling interfere with your education*". School surely is a valuable source of learning, but life is where true education is

found. Our education most certainly will not stop today. **The past 12 years were not designed to prepare us for today, but to prepare us for the rest of our lives.** The act of learning never stops, it's just the way we learn that changes. Our most important lessons must be gleaned from life in our own way, on our own terms, by our own methods, as we must live with the consequences.

Today we celebrate, but we must also look ahead to tomorrow. My Dad has always driven home the fact that we must set goals so that we can move in a pre-determined direction. **Goals keep you focused and it is good to remember that obstacles are only those frightful things you see when you take your eyes off your goals.**



Diane Bieber, Kristen Gale and Ossama AbouZeid

In closing, I would like to leave you with some wise words by Harold V. Melchert:

*Live your life each day as you  
would climb a mountain.  
  
An occasional glance toward the  
summit keeps the goal in mind,  
  
But many beautiful scenes are  
to be observed from each new  
vantage point.  
  
Climb slowly, steadily, enjoying  
each passing moment; and the view  
from the summit will serve as a  
fitting climax for the journey.*



Aren't they cute?



BH Lifers



1999 Doll Assembly



Don't fall in!



## Fiddler on the Roof

All those who attended one of the many performances of "Fiddler on the Roof" walked away brimming with enthusiasm. The wonderful cast of 35 captured the audience with a thrilling production. They perfectly portrayed the story of Tevye the milkman and his family with both humour and pathos. The cast sang and danced throughout the play, which

featured the special appearance of five Ukrainian bottle dancers. The theme of the family's loss of their home resonated with the audience, who linked these events with those occurring at the time in Kosovo. The high calibre of the show was a tribute not only to the cast but also to the many staff and parent volunteers. It was an unforgettable experience and a treasured memory for everyone on both sides of the curtain.



## Behind the Scenes Superstar

by Heather Emberley



Behind every great show there is a great carpenter. BH is fortunate to have a dedicated volunteer in the name of Gary Gaudry, Maintenance Assistant who gives up to eighty hours per show of his own time to help major stage theatre productions.

Gary works with a design architect and makes blueprints which become his

focus for weeks on end. While experience has helped tremendously with the thousand and one aspects involved, Gary found the staging of Mousetrap "*a challenge*" because of the intricacy of the details.

When he can, Gary does as much of the carpentry as possible at home. He purchases the lumber and works in his garage. When it is time to assemble the sets at school, Gary takes responsibility for ensuring the girls' safety around the modules. '*The furniture used in the scenes is secured by bolts and cables so nothing falls on anyone*', he explains.

So important is safety to Gary that he rebuilt the rolling pedestal in the angel scene in last year's production of Fiddler on the Roof "*three times until the girls felt comfortable with it.*" As a team player, he also works with the lighting and sound crews as well as supervising the students who paint the sets.

He values drama at the school "*because it is a confidence builder for the girls.*" Gary finds his involvement with drama most rewarding. The students appreciate all he does and are glad he is "*behind the scenes*".

## Highland Dance Program at Balmoral Hall School

Over seventy enthusiastic Balmoral Hall students participate in the new Highland Dance program at the school on Monday and Friday afternoons taught by Gaelyn McGregor, Principal of the McGregor Studio of Dance.

Both the winter and spring Highland Variety concerts proved that the students practiced diligently which enabled them to perform choreographed and traditional dances with the expertise of years of training. Besides the concerts, one of the highlights was performing for all the teachers and students at the "*Culture Day*" full school assembly this past March.

The Highland Dance program continues in the fall with an added class for the dancers wishing to participate in competitions and exams.



Highland Dance in Richardson Hall Athletic Centre

## Jump Rope for Heart raises almost \$20,000!

Once again, our annual Jump Rope for Heart program was a huge success. The students from Grades One to Six raised an amazing total of \$19,988 for the Manitoba Heart & Stroke Foundation. It is incredible that



the amount of money raised increases every year. Our congratulations go out to the students for their hard work and dedication. A special congratulations to **Tory MacTavish** for the tremendous efforts of raising **\$460.00!** A special thank you to all the staff and parents for their continued support in such an important event.



# Balmoral Hall School

# Year End Report



## Letter from the Development Committee Chair – Keith Jordan

Balmoral Hall has been on the leading edge of educational excellence for almost 100 years - the collaboration of high academic standards with strong traditions, cherished values and the steadfast belief in all girls' education. These are qualities that make us a truly great school. Once again, June marked the milestone of a BH experience as our graduates headed on to higher education with a sound educational experience and lifelong friendships. These graduates will join the ranks of BH alumnae who continue to make their mark in the world and are a testimony to our Mission of achieving their personal best.

In striving for continued excellence, we must rely on support over and above tuition fees if we hope to maintain our high standards and excel. Many are surprised to learn that tuition fees do not cover the full cost of a BH education. We must turn to broad voluntary financial support through Annual Giving to help close the gap. The Annual Fund has the potential to serve as our greatest resource and we seek to develop in all of Balmoral Hall's family a commitment to and an understanding of, the importance of their annual support. The name of the game is participation!

In March of 1999 the Board of Governors led the BH Family in our first ever school wide Annual Giving Campaign; Enhancing Her Experience. The need to raise funds for the 98/99 school year ending June 30th 1999 made for a short but successful event. The desire to educate our BH Family on the value of an Annual Giving program was foremost in our minds as we worked with the Alumnae Association and Parent Association to communicate the need to give.

We are very encouraged that in the three months the campaign ran we had received donations to every fund outlined, from all of our constituencies.

## Balmoral Hall School Annual Giving Summary

Unrestricted donations applied to Balmoral Hall's most immediate needs within its annual operating budget:	<b>\$20,852.00</b>
Balmoral Hall Fund in support of Junior School revitalization:	<b>\$4,978.00</b>
BH Bursary Fund:	<b>\$1,375.00</b>
BH Scholarship Fund:	<b>\$3,429.00</b>
Aikins House Restoration Fund:	<b>\$4,041.00</b>
In total, 162 gifts were made in the amount of:	<b>\$34,675.00</b>



Our campaign for the current school year will be running from November 1999 through to June 30th 2000. Our goal will be to dramatically increase participation from all Balmoral Hall constituencies. Please demonstrate your commitment to BH, a donation of any amount is significant and very much appreciated. We thank all donors who have generously given during the 1999 calendar year and extend the invitation to join us again in this campaign. For all who believe in BH, your gift could make a major impact on the lives of BH young women as well as provide tax benefits for your family.

## Where the Money Goes – Finance Committee Chair – Roy Cook

In last year's Portal, we presented a brief summary of Balmoral Hall's 1998-99 Budget, highlighting the School's anticipated revenues and the School's planned expenditures by major category. This information was provided so that our students, parents, staff and alumnae would have an understanding of the sources of Balmoral Hall's funding and of where this funding is directed. In keeping with that spirit, this year we would like to let you know how we did in comparison to budget and to once again outline our budget for the current year of 1999-2000.

Revenues last year exceeded budget by approximately 3%, largely as a result of actual enrollment being greater than had been budgeted. It's gratifying to see the School's student population at higher than anticipated levels and is certainly a reflection of the School's strong reputation within the Winnipeg community.

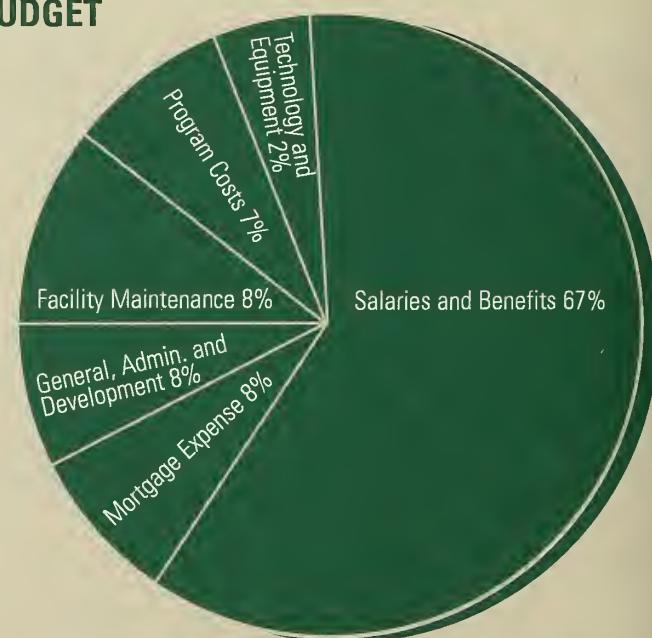
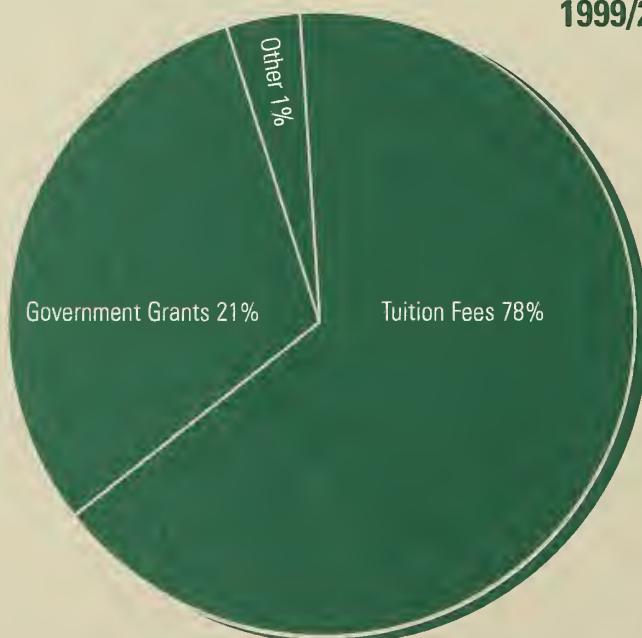
Expenses also exceeded budget, but by a slightly smaller margin of approximately 2%. Reasons for the increase were the larger than budgeted enrollment, unanticipated maintenance and repair expenses and increased salary and benefit costs, largely as a result of certain one-time reorganization costs. The unanticipated building and maintenance expenses relate to the School's older facilities, and certain variations in these maintenance expenses can be expected as the timing of repairs cannot always be accurately predicted. Importantly, the School's new facilities (the state-of-the-art Performing Arts, Technology Resource and Athletic Centres) performed outstandingly in their first year of operation. These new facilities have allowed the School to expand and enhance programs and have significantly enriched our students' experience at the School!

Overall, Balmoral Hall closed its 1998-99 fiscal year essentially on track and slightly ahead of budget, with revenues exceeding expenses.

As for 1999-2000, the following pie charts represent a pictorial summary of this year's Budget as approved by the Board of Governors at its July Board meeting.



**What Does the Tuition \$\$ Pay For?  
1999/2000 BUDGET**



**Revenue (1999/2000)**

**Expenses (1999/2000)**

- **Revenues** are budgeted to be slightly less than in 1998-99, reflecting the School's practice of being conservative in its fiscal management. The pie charts continue to reflect the School's two major revenue streams -- tuition and government funding. Revenues from fundraising have not been included in the budget, again reflecting the School's conservative approach. Donations are an important and hopefully growing part of Balmoral Hall's revenue base and will be the major source of funding for further enhancements in the School's facilities and equipment.

- **Expenses** for 1999-2000 are also budgeted to be less than last year, with reductions budgeted in building repair and maintenance and in overall salaries and benefits. These reductions were achieved through streamlining of programs, while sustaining overall program and educational quality, reflecting the School's commitment to its students and their education. Costs associated with the School's facilities, notably mortgage expenses, again represent a significant portion of the School's overall expenses and will do so for years to come. The new facilities are proving to be an invaluable, if not essential addition to our School and the decision to proceed with this very large capital project has proven itself through the enhancements we have achieved in our programs and the overall quality of experience at our School. However, the new facilities did require the School to take on a large amount of debt. Consequently, one of the fiscal goals of the School is to see this debt paid down as rapidly as possible.

- **The 1999-2000 Budget**, in summary, once again presents a balanced plan with revenues budgeted to slightly exceed expenses and with a continued commitment to Balmoral Hall's students. Under the leadership of our new Head of School, this year's budget includes purchases of technology, more resources for courses and improvements to our Junior School. (Come visit the first floor of Dalton House!). We have also dedicated funds to teachers' salaries in order to continue to retain and attract the best teachers for our students. We look forward to updating you on our progress as this year unfolds and urge you to contact us should you have any questions regarding the finances of our School. We will do our best to give you the answers!



## **Letter from the Parent Association President – Linda Mitchell**

The Parent Association enhances Balmoral Hall students' educational, recreational and cultural development. In the 1998/99 school year, the Parent Association financed \$38,157 to the following enhancements:

- CD/tape player (Junior gym)
- Orff instruments (music program)
- Printers (Junior School classrooms)
- Soccer nets & fencing (Junior School)
- 2 High 8 Beta video cameras & tapes (Middle & Senior School)
- Laser printer (Middle & Senior School computer lab)
- 2 Multimedia work stations (Moffat Technology Resource Centre)
- Weight Room equipment (Richardson Athletic Centre)
- VCR (Residence)
- Table tennis table (Middle & Senior School)
- House pins (all students)



In addition to the above, the Parent Association made a \$40,000 commitment over a four year period to the Capital Campaign. In May of 1997, the Parent Association set up a \$50,000 Investment Fund with the intention that the interest from the Fund go toward future Scholarships and Awards. In 1998/99 we funded scholarships in the amount of \$7,500. It is our intention to increase this amount for the 1999/2000 school year. We plan to fund six scholarships and six awards for a total of \$10,500.

The Parent Association is grateful to the many volunteers who give so generously of their time and talents to make the activities of the Parent Association so very successful. I thank all of you who have contributed to making this year a success; the students, the faculty, the administration, the Board, the Parent Association and all the dedicated volunteers. We could not achieve our mandate without your support. Thank you.

## **Balmoral Hall School Parent Association Financial Report For the year ended June 30, 1999**

### **Revenue**

Dance/Auction	\$ 48,748
Golf Tournament	25,225
Bingo	16,984
Gift Wrap	11,187
Bar-B-Q	8,671
Parent Association Fees	8,600
Interest Bank and Investment Account	3,994
Nearly New Sales	3,799
Other Income	2,783
	<u>\$129,991</u>



### **Expenses**

Dance/Auction	\$ 15,284
Golf Tournament	20,956
Graduation Bingos	2,000
Gift Wrap	6,288
Bar-B-Q	6,679
Equipment Allocations	38,157
Capital Campaign	10,000
Scholarships	7,500
Student Lunches	2,641
Residence Gifts and Holiday Party	1,289
Nearly New Sales	868
Other expenses	3,919
	<u>\$115,581</u>
	<b>\$ 14,410</b>

# YOUR PARTICIPATION DOES MAKE THE DIFFERENCE!

## 1998-99 Annual Giving Donors

On the following pages, Balmoral Hall School gratefully acknowledges the generous support of parents, alumnae, past parents, grandparents, staff and friends of the School. We appreciate the sincerity with which you have embraced our message of participation, where no gift can ever be too small.

Your choice to support Annual Giving will enable us to provide programs and services that continue to position Balmoral Hall as a leading girls' School where all our students have the opportunity to achieve their personal best.

Donors play an important role in shaping BH by generously volunteering time and donating money for the benefit of our students. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to provide an educational experience that is exceptional and the chance to instill in the hearts of our girls a love of learning.

### Alumnae

#### Riverbend

- Kathleen Ford
- Emily Marshall
- Anne Maier
- Polly Riley
- Shirley A. Richardson
- Dorothy Weagant
- Shirley Lush
- Marion H. Russell
- Sherry (Carruthers) Fleming
- Elizabeth Graham
- Isobel Gunness, in memory of Elizabeth Slater
- Lois K. Mackenzie
- Lorna Berg
- Carolyn (Dowler) Reid Graham

#### Rupert's Land

- Elizabeth Buggey
- Nancy Moncrieff
- Betty Wilcox
- Blanche (Henderson) Johnston
- Cynthia Burbidge
- Eve (Rogers) Auer
- Louise Baker
- Barbara Aldous
- Marjorie (Chisholm) Johnston
- Lorena Fair
- Barbara Cantlie
- Mrs. Amy Wadley
- Joyce Fulton
- Elaine Goldberg
- Miriam (Baker) Blair
- The Reverend Ruth S. (Simonds) Smith

#### Balmoral Hall School

##### 1950 - 1959

- Joan L. (Malaher) Williams
- Lyn Stephen
- Judy (Bonnycastle) Burgess
- Carole Ann Baron
- Gail Leach
- Patricia Weeks

### 1960 - 1969

- Nicki (McGibbon) Douglas
- Dr. Bea MacKay
- E. Ann Curry
- Linda (Leach) Radcliffe BH '63
- Marcia A. (Jackson) Boyd
- Ditte (Lansky) Cloutier BH '66
- Joan (Rankin) Richardson

### 1970 - 1979

- Allyson (Treleaven) Hannaford
- Nancy M. Riley
- Signy Stewart
- Deborah Metcalfe
- Catherine (Coughlin) Thiessen
- Christy (Coughlin) Bangen

### 1980 - 1989

- Nicola (Murray) Tory
- Shelley Muir
- Megan Jessiman
- Tannis Nuttall
- Lori Kavanagh
- Jennifer (Thamer) Meister
- Nancy Campeau & Gail Cipryk
- Heather Owen

### 1990 - 1999

- Heather Jessiman

### Board of Governors

- Mr. Ossama AbouZeid
- Mr. Daniel Akman
- Mrs. Ruth Asper
- Mr. Richard Ball
- Dr. Karen Boyd
- Ms. Cheryl Clarke
- Mr. Roy Cook
- Mr. Gene Dunn
- Mr. Keith Jordan
- Mrs. Rosana Leung Shing
- Mrs. Linda Mitchell
- Ms Donna Miller
- Mr. Dennis Nikkel
- Ms Tannis Nuttall
- Ms Heather Owen
- Mr. Daniel Sherbo
- Mr. Graeme Sifton
- Ms Lydia Surasky-Matte
- Mr. Jack Tepley

### Parents

- Ida Albo & Richard Bel
- Darryl Burke & Lori Dobbie
- Dennis & Debra Caners
- David Chin
- Richard & Hennie Corrin
- Brian & Tracey Danowski
- Dario & Gianna Del Rizzo
- Mrs. Kerri Deller
- Ab Freig
- William S. Gardner
- Marlene Heron
- Dr. & Mrs. Diamond Kassum
- Edward Kennedy
- David, Denise & Lisa Koss
- Joanne Lee
- Dekang Lin & Lou Lin-Yuan
- Gary & Leah Moore
- R. Onotera & S. Mackenzie
- Chrys Pappas, Q.C. & Kaye Dunlop, Q.C.
- Pilar & Mariana Ramirez
- James A. Ripley & Diane E. Jones
- Robert Sly
- Darlene Sveinson
- Gordon & Lorena Trann
- Mr. & Mrs. M.C. Walkden
- Mr. & Mrs. Gary Wilton
- Sepoy & Mariel Wong
- Igor Zaks

### Past Parents

- Mrs. Wm. E. Harrison
- Luis Oppenheimer & Jocelyn Jennings
- Jim Wasson

### Grandparents

- Mrs. E. Patricia Brunsdon
- Dr. & Mrs. R.F. Friesen
- Robert & Thelma Jones
- Marg & Ian Miller
- Ross Nugent
- Eleanor Okrainec
- T. Onotera
- E.E. Robertson
- Dr. & Mrs. Percy Goldberg

### Past Staff

- Jacquie (Anderson) Riley
  - Barbara A. Cantlie
- 
- ### Staff
- Tina Alto
  - Lee Anderson
  - Diane Bieber
  - Nancy Campbell
  - Marilyn J. Clarke
  - Denise Gariepy
  - Kirsten Gerrard
  - Mrs. Beth Goldberg
  - J & S Hunter
  - Barbara Janz
  - Sue Magne
  - Laurel McFarlane
  - Pamela K. McGhie
  - Kerry Montgomery
  - D. Morrison
  - Ann (Sellers) Piercy
  - Judith Steek
  - Geneviève Tétrault
  - Hildy Thiessen
  - Heather Westdal
  - Nancy Young

\* several anonymous donors

### Alumnae Annual Giving

#### 1997 - 1998

The following names missed our last publication and we wish to recognize you for your donation:

- Alan Judd
- Janice Bosley
- Diana Salter

# THANK YOU

## Half a Century of Payments

February, 1999

Mrs. Tannis (Leach) Nuttall,  
President Balmoral Hall Alumnae Association

Dear Tannis:

I have been meaning to contact you for some time and now the arrival of the Portal pushes me to action before I have even read it thoroughly. GRAB THE MOMENT!

For the past two years, as I prepared my tax information, I have been astonished to find that I had not donated to the BH Alumnae Annual Giving Fund although the funds had been set aside for this purpose. It must be a case of "if you don't ask...you don't git!" and I wanted to bring this omission to your attention. We must do something about that.

I know we loathed asking for money for the '87 Reunion, the Capital Campaign and Annual Giving all at once, but as I recall, we determined the alums had enjoyed a "free ride" for years, and it was time to offer them the opportunity to participate financially on a regular basis. Continuing Education!

I look forward to receiving an actual invoice and encourage all alums to support this program to whatever degree they are comfortable. If you can't give much - give a little each year. This cause is surely as important as the other creditable charities on your annual list of giving.

For those of you from my class of '49, please remember that had you attended any other private school in the country, you would have been forwarding payments for a half a century! If you can make up for those years, I'm sure the school would be thrilled, but modest, yet full participation is an equally significant goal.

Carolyn (Dowler) Reid Graham (RB '49)

### The following families have honoured their pledge to the Enriching Her Tomorrows Capital Campaign:

- Moffat Communications Limited
- Ossama & Edith AbouZeid
- Dan & Cydney Akman
- Lee & Wayne Anderson
- Mr. & Mrs. D. Aronovitch
- Balmoral Hall School Parent Association
- Ditte & N. Paul Cloutier
- Pat & Mike Conchâtre
- Stephen & Monique Coyle
- John Donald
- Mr. & Mrs. Marshall Etkin
- The Everett Family
- Gary & Gwen Steiman
- Rae & Jerry's Steak House
- Dwaine & Leslie King
- The Bryan Klein Family
- Robert & Colleen Kolt
- Mr. & Mrs. R.M. (Bob) Kozminski
- The Labman Family
- Barbara Leach-Walters
- Catriona Macfarlane
- Sue Magne
- Mark & Gloria Mancini
- Jhun, Julie & Johsa Manzanilla
- Kerry Montgomery
- Ming Auto Beauty Centres of Winnipeg
- Jim, Irene & Erin Palmer
- Powell Equipment Limited
- The Prendiville Family
- James & Shirley Richardson
- Jim & Joan Richardson & Family
- Eileen Rieger
- Mr. & Mrs. J. Derek Riley
- Dr. & Mrs. Robert T. Ross
- Mr. & Mrs. J.A. Sammons

- Iain & Jan Scott
- Don Slough & Leslie Speirs
- Gerard Matte & Lydia Surasky-Matte
- The Sweatman Family
- Jack, Margot & Dorice Topley
- Catherine (Coughlin) Thiessen (BH '78)
- Dr. & Mrs. T. Kenneth Thorlakson
- \* several anonymous donors

### The following families have fulfilled their pledge to the Enriching Her Tomorrows Capital Campaign:

- Richard & Nancy Ball
- Jan & Kevin Coates
- Hugh & Carol Ellis
- Bill & Beth Gibson
- Gordon & Roberta Gunther

- Rick Handlon & Cathy Fillmore
- Katherine, Keith & Chelsea Jordan
- Andrew & Diane Kazina
- Gerald Lefevre & Ann McNeill
- Mr. & Mrs. Louis Leung Shing
- Dr. & Mrs. Adrian Long
- Graham Lount & Suzanne (Banfield) Lount
- Marc Monnin & Donna Miller
- Dennis & Brenda Nikkel
- Harold & Brenley Nyhof
- Dorothy & Carl Pontifex
- James Richardson & Sons Limited
- The Sharpe Family
- Graeme Sifton
- Robert Stewart & Leslie Ross-Stewart
- Joanne R. Sutherland
- The Toronto Dominion Bank

\* several anonymous donors

# GRANDPARENTS' DAY



# BLESSED WITH A VERY SPECIAL HOUSE GUEST

*Even Though My Plate is Full, My Life Has Been Enriched by this Experience*  
Sherna Posner - April 1999

This past Saturday morning as I drove to Balmoral Hall to pick up my Japanese daughter for 2 1/2 months, I asked myself if I was doing the right thing at this time. Like many of you, I have a lot on my plate right now. For starters, my mother who is 85 and extremely frail is visiting us from Saskatoon for 1 month and this visit entails getting proper care for her as well as trying to make arrangements for her care in Saskatoon. Secondly, our house is for sale and this means getting it ready every time someone wants to see it. Thirdly, my husband is not able to help a great deal in the evenings, as he is involved with the Lawyer's production of "Fiddler on the Roof." I have been a theatre widow for a number of months and will be for two more weeks. In short, I am busy and no doubt this is a story familiar to many of you as well.

As I sat in the common room at BH waiting for our new guest, I filled myself with a myriad of questions. Do I make rice every day, what happens if she is homesick, what will I do when either of my sons visits from Toronto and wants his room back, and what if the house is sold and what if and what if...? My daughter asked me before all this took place if I had ever consulted her about taking in a guest (I suppose there is a bit of feeling of displacement there). A good friend of mine asked me if I had discussed this step with anyone in the family before committing to this visit.

The answers to these questions seemed to reveal themselves clearly when I saw my new daughter take my mother's hand in the grocery store, when her father phoned from Japan to thank us for looking after his daughter, when her grandfather called to also thank us, when my own daughter said to me "she's so cute" or "if I were her I'd be in tears due to being so lonely," or whenever she bows, I know we made the right decision to take on a visitor to our home.

What I have concluded is that even though my plate is full, my life has been enriched by this experience. I feel we have been blessed to have this exposure to someone from a different country and culture. I feel reassured each morning with her "good morning" that our whole family has been blessed with a very special house guest.

I encourage all of you to connect with the host families so you too can share in this experience. You will be glad for the opportunity to make this connection.

P.S. I've already called to ask for another student next year!



I-r: Reina Hattori, Mika Soma, Ai Ito, Dena El-Sayed, Mari Ito, Laura Lemon, Sheryl McLaughlin



I-r: Sherma Posner, Ai Ito, Gerry Posner

Some of our Residence students require accommodation during the long weekends, and several events are being planned throughout the year where any BH family can participate and connect with these girls.

If you would like to volunteer for this year's Residence Program or participate in the Residence Events, please contact Sue Kruger, Parent Association Residence Liaison at 831-9962.

# LOOKING FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Yet another school year is well under way at Balmoral Hall. As you can see from the Portal, change is everywhere and there is excitement in the air!

The aims of our Association are:

- to engender a feeling of fellowship and common purpose among the former students and staff of Havergal, Rupert's Land, Riverbend and Balmoral Hall Schools;
- to give support to and to represent the interest of the Association within the school community
- to engage in a variety of activities so as to assist the School and to encourage the support of its future graduates for the programs of the Association.

## Message from Tannis (Leach) Nuttall '83

The Alumnae Association would like to begin with welcoming Mrs. Claire Sumerlus as the new Head of School. Claire brings with her real vision, expertise and enthusiasm to her new role in guiding the School. Claire's background is in a number of different educational and administrative positions throughout Winnipeg School Division No. 1 and most recently the Principal of Brock-Corydon School. Great things are happening at the School under Claire's guidance and the Alumnae Association would like to give her our full support. As an Alumnae and current parent at the School, I am excited about the direction and new visions for Balmoral Hall.

## Centennial Celebration Weekend - May 3-5, 2002

This all Schools Alumnae Reunion will be in celebration of 100 years of the School...an event not to be missed, so plan to be in Winnipeg for that weekend! A committee chair is still required. Anyone interested should contact the Alumnae Office. We will need a lot of support and

alumnae involvement in organizing the Reunion so please think about getting involved in some small way. If you assisted in organizing the last reunion in 1987, then you know how much you enjoyed that and we would appreciate your assistance again!

Until the Reunion, please stay in touch. One area of focus will be finding lost alums that we do not have current addresses for. We could use your assistance in this. Prior to the Reunion, we will be running "Lost & Found" ads in major newspapers across Canada in order to locate alums. We will also be starting up the Class Representative system again which has gone by the wayside in recent years. Each class rep will be in charge of getting and keeping current addresses for their class. How hard could this be?!!

In preparation for the Centennial Celebrations, Tina Alto, Director of Development & Alumnae was in Toronto on October 15 with Jennifer (Thamer) Meister (BH '85) who co-hosted a reception for those in the Toronto area. The evening was a great success and all those in attendance enjoyed themselves. If any alumnae in other areas would like to host a reception in their area, please give Tina a call and the Alumnae Office can provide some assistance. Don't be shy!



## Annual Giving Campaign

Lastly, I would like to thank all of those who participated in the last Annual Giving campaign. We were pleased with the alumnae participation. The annual giving campaign is about to begin again, so if you have not had a chance to donate yet for 1999, now is the time! If you did contribute and want to again... THANK YOU!

The Alumnae Association is looking for your support in any way you are able. We will require a significant number of volunteers to pull together the Reunion. With respect to Annual Giving, the funds donated can be allocated to a number of different areas of the School according to your preference. Thank you again for your ongoing support.

## Alumnae Association 1999/2000 Board

- Tannis (Leach) Nuttall '83, *President*
- Debbie Metcalfe '76, *Vice President*
- Shelley Muir '81, *Secretary*
- Maria (Clark) Lysack '82, *Treasurer*
- Lyn Stephen '57, *Archivist*
- Diane Sidebottom-Roulston '80, *Co-Chair, Heritage Committee*
- Ruby Ashdown, Riverbend '39, *Co-Chair, Heritage Committee*
- Susan (Graham) Scott '81
- Sarah Young '98

Barbara (Leach) Walters ('81),  
Margo (Leach) Vergottis ('87),  
Tannis (Leach) Nuttall ('83)

# A FEELING OF KINSHIP

## Tea With A Duchess

By Trish Geske,  
BH Beginnings

When travelling in Scotland during the summer of 1998, I had the opportunity to meet a Balmoral Hall alumnae, Cathy Young Montrose. Cathy Young was Head Girl of Balmoral Hall in 1951. She was only the second Head Girl since the school had changed its name from Riverbend. I was able to obtain a copy from our BH Archivist of Cathy Young's Valedictory Speech from the 1951-52 yearbook. What struck me was how

timely her words still were for our school today. *"This year we are trying to make our school not just an institution of learning, but a place where we have that feeling of kinship - of belonging."*

Cathy was a very gracious hostess to myself and my travelling companions. She lives in Scotland with her husband, the Duke of Montrose and comes back to visit Winnipeg from time to time. We are hoping that one of her visits will coincide with Balmoral Hall's 100th Birthday Celebration in 2001-2002.

I-r: Gaelyn McGregor, Cathy Young Montrose, Tricia Geske, Colleen (McGregor) Furlan - Grade 1 student, Duke of Montrose, Myrna McGregor



## BH Girl Catches the Queen's Eye!

On August 18th, 1999 Colleen (McGregor) Furlan, BH '2011, (a member of Ballater House) dressed in a hot pink rain coat and matching hat, caught the fashion conscience eye of Queen Elizabeth and was invited inside the barricade at Ballater Station Square, Scotland to meet her Royal Highness.

Colleen, her mother Gaelyn and several friends of the McGregor Studio of Dance had joined a large gathering with the hopes of seeing her Majesty.

Gaelyn had mentioned to Colleen that sometimes the Queen would invite little girls from the village to play with her granddaughters, Beatrice and Eugenie.

Colleen presented the Queen with flowers, a Winnipeg and Canada pin. Gaelyn asked her daughter about the exciting moment to which young Colleen sadly replied "she didn't invite me to the castle to play with the girls!" Such is the world through a six year old's eyes.



On June 26, 1999, Nancy Marsden '04 participated in the welcoming ceremonies for The Princess Royal

# Royalty

# REUNIONS

## Attention Class of '90...Is it Time to Update this list Yet??

The Graduates Most Likely To...(reprinted from the 1990 BH yearbook)

Laurie Tanner	Own a chain of bars
Melissa Portnoy	Own Melissa Press-on Nails
Tracy Zimmerman	Be a Playboy centerfold
Dara Devins	Appear on SCTV
Heather Jessiman	Own a hockey team & marry the star player
*Treena Hastings	Have the best dressed kids
Shannon (Garrett) Nevison	Elope with a construction worker
Stephanie Tait	Be the star reporter for the Enquirer & finally put Baker Lake on the map
*Lorraine Ng	Actually most likely to be rich
Anne McGregor	Find the cure for cancer and then lose it
*Terri Poole	Be convicted of murder
*Alana Gunn	Marry a Chip & Pepper man
Jenny Crozier	Marry Alex Baumann
Dani Rice	Peg off Wayne Gretzky while driving a Zamboni
Christine (Novotny) Ulicki	Teach Tom Cruise how to fly a plane
Sarah Lyttle	Be an usher at Cats on Broadway
Lynne (Sullivan) Caspick	Star in "Phantom" on Broadway
Tamami Otaki	Be a Japanese pop star
*Masami Kubota	Play for the Boston Red Sox
*Rageshwar Dulat	Be a millionaire before she can legally drink
Tara Lemieux	Hear "Good Morning K-Mart Shoppers" everyday for the rest of her life (J.K. Tara!)
Michelle Mackness	Lose her I.D. on her 18th birthday and still not be allowed in the Spectrum
Jenny Choi	Have a hole in the ozone layer right over her house (nice bangs)
*Natalya Koth-Bull	End up with 2.2 kids, a house in the country & a BMW
Sandy Pearson	Run a Diet Centre
Ramona Jozsa	Own a boutique on Rodeo Drive
Virginia Mak	Become an Opera singer
Summer Sprague	Appear in a Club beer commercial
*Priscilla Lam	Create a worldwide ban of early morning assemblies
Maya Prabhu	Become the first Prime Minister
Karen Shanski	Become the Headmistress of BH
Gill Pettigrew	Have the most problems with men
Tracy Kurz	Be a country music star
Melanie Hyska	Become loud & obnoxious
*Michelle Cuesta	Open an enchilada stand
Mira Sahay	Marry her guitar and live happily ever after
Lauren Toni	Be BH's most successful teacher
Melissa Narvas	End world hunger
Deidre Collette	Have the healthiest children (if she has any at all)
Denny Hyndman	Star in the Exorcist parts 4, 5 & 6

\* indicates that we do not have an address in the database. Please contact Denise Gariepy at the Alumnae Office, (204) 784-1603 or email, [dgariepy@balmoralhall.winnipeg.mb.ca](mailto:dgariepy@balmoralhall.winnipeg.mb.ca) if you know the whereabouts of these lost alumnae.

### Anniversary years are:

Class of 1990      10 years  
 Class of 1980      20 years  
 Class of 1970      30 years

Class of 1960      40 years  
 Class of 1950      50 years  
*Reunion Organizers Needed!!*

## Class of '89 Ten Year Reunion

The weekend was kicked off with a Cocktail Party in Aikins House and as a special reunion event, the alumnae re-printed their hands in a cement block in the back of the school. On Saturday, the group had a Tarot Card reading and a group dinner at Pasta la Vista. *"We all had a great time seeing the 'new school' and catching up. We enjoyed ourselves very much!"*



Seen here are alumnae from the graduating class of 1989 who gathered at the school in May of 1999. In attendance were: Alex (Hooker) Bergman, Patricia Maia, Asma (Bukhari) Khan, Danielle Lemieux, Beth Secter, Heather Owen, Jennifer (Finn) Goodman, Elizabeth (McDonald) Kristjansson, Sherry Dunn and Mekhul Ramgoolam.

In May 1999, five silver-headed members of the **Class of '56** celebrated their friendships, the milestones of their connections, and the achievement of their 60th birthdays.



From left to right: Diane (Smith) Taylor, Collingwood, Ontario; Janie (Mathewson) Regier, Surrey, B.C.; Daphne (Smith) Ethans, Winnipeg; Gayle (McLean) McPherson, Acton, Ontario; and Joy S. McDiarmid, Winnipeg.

**Need a facility to host the reunion?** Look no further than Aikins House, the Sifton Family Theatre or the Kozminski Common Room. Fax, phone or e-mail the office.  
 Phone: (204) 784-1614  
 Fax: (204) 774-5534  
 E-mail: [bhalum@minet.gov.mb.ca](mailto:bhalum@minet.gov.mb.ca)

## •The Littlest Boarders

By Ditte Lansky Cloutier '66



Lil Swaffield Cohen & Ditte

Deirdre Malone, Lily Swaffield and I were the youngest boarders and we were referred to as the "littlest" boarders. All of the other boarders were at least 12 or 13. Deirdre started at age 8, and Lily and I at 9. Deirdre's family lived in Winnipeg, and she was a "*weekly boarder*." My family lived in Carman, MB and Lily's family was in Coral Harbour on South Hampton Island (now in Nunavut). Lily had never been to school before, never mind to boarding school. Hers is a fascinating story that she is writing for the next issue.

In the late 1950s, it was called "*boarding*" not "*rez*" (residence). There were 18 of us living in the Red House which was located where the main entrance of the school is currently. In those days, Aikins House was known as the "*White House*." Aikins House had originally been the home of Sir James Aikins who bequeathed it to Riverbend School in 1929. The Red House had been built next door for Sir James' son, Harold and his family. Harold Aikins' four daughters were all born in that Red House: Jean Aikins Mulholland who attended Rupert's Land, Peggy Aikins Sellers who attended Miss Edgar's and Miss Cramp's in Montreal, Dime Aikins

Riley who graduated from Riverbend, and the late Lorna Aikins Panos who attended Riverbend from Kindergarten through Grade 12.

Many "*old girls*" (now called Alumnae) know Mrs. Sellers, Mrs. Riley and Peggy's daughters Ann BH '62 and Joan BH '64. Peg Sellers' contribution to Balmoral Hall is legendary. It includes all manner of support ranging from the Lilac Teas and Days in the Country during the 1960s, to the Enriching Her Tomorrows Campaign launched after Reunion 87. Ann and Joan's father, the late George Sellers chaired the Balmoral Hall Board of Governors from 1955-1957. Mrs. Riley's son, Con went to Kindergarten at the school. Dime Riley served as a Governor of Balmoral Hall for many years, and continues to graciously provide advice and counsel to the school's Advisory Board and to the Heritage Committee of the Balmoral Hall Alumnae Association.

## Back to the Red House:

I remember being allowed to colour on the walls the day before it was demolished in order to make way for Senior School and Dalton House which then provided modern facilities for sixty boarders and classroom space for the Nursery School, Kindergarten and Grade One. Opened on September 22, 1961, this new building was named to honour the first Headmistress of Havergal Ladies College, Miss Joan Dalton. Havergal West opened in 1901.

During the construction, the younger boarders lived in the Aikins House dining room. The section with the "*Let Something Good Be Said*" (James Whitcombe Riley) fireplace which now is part of the dining room, was a separate bedroom at that time. The Headmistress, Gwendolyn Murrell Wright, lived there.

Can you believe it? There we were: EIGHT boarders sleeping on four bunk beds in a room which was literally within earshot of the Head of School.

## Back to the Red House again:

When you came in the front door there was a sitting room on the right hand side, which had previously been the library of Harold Aikins as well as Dime Riley's classroom in Grades 7 and 8. "*Letter writing*" was held there every Sunday afternoon. We were firmly encouraged to write to our families. I remember telling the House Mother Mrs. Elliot that I had nothing nice to say, and, that I had been taught that if that were indeed the case, I should not say anything at all! To this very day, whenever I sit down to write a letter (and especially last year when our daughter, Alexis BH '98 lived in Dublin), I remember sitting in that room and looking outside longingly.

The dining room was located in the basement of the Junior School building that had been added to the property for Riverbend School. It is only in the last decade that the green and black tiled floor in the current Kindergarten classrooms has been covered. Deirdre, Lily and I always had to sit with the House Mother, and on occasion, with Miss Murrell Wright. I shall always remember Lily taking water on her cereal. She had never had milk in the great white north.

Many of my memories as a child at boarding school are sad, just as one might expect, but life long friendships were formed during those lonely years. Many old girls have heard this story before: Deirdre and I sitting at Miss Bewell's feet being given our sex education as it is now called. Ruth Bewell also taught Scripture. She had a

poster-sized map of the Holy Land on her sitting room wall next to an unusually large poster of the female anatomy. It was a Fellini like experience!

Both Deirdre and Lil were here in Winnipeg this past summer, and we regaled Julia (Grade 9/Senior 1) and Alexis with uproariously funny stories of our days as the littlest boarders. I ended my boarding years on the third floor of the White House, a privilege reserved for Grade 12s. We enjoyed sun tanning on the balcony overlooking the Assiniboine, and some of the other boarders made good use of the fire escape for their extra curricular activities. I no longer get a knot in my stomach when I walk up the steps of Aikins

House, the soul of Balmoral Hall. It is Alexis' and Julia's school, and all that Balmoral Hall has become.

As we approach the school's 100th birthday, may we all look back fondly at the role Havergal, Rupert's Land, Riverbend and Balmoral Hall played in each of our lives. As students, each one of us has been a thread in the fabric of what we know today as Balmoral Hall. It is a strong and distinctive Ancient Hunting McLean tartan that has woven throughout, invisible threads of navy, cherry red, and grey from the founding schools.

We old girls/alumnae are a strong and distinctive bunch who enjoy a vast network of friends and acquaintances throughout the world. Go out the front door and look at the Colorado spruce

trees that border Westminster and Langside. They are the legacy of Reunion 87 and are dedicated to the memory of Alumnae. Go and look above the fireplace in the Common Room. The Class of 1969 dedicated this Friendship Window to their classmates who have died. The Class of 1969 believes that a Balmoral Hall friendship continues to flow on and on like the Assiniboine River, and that its strength is derived from the pillars of Aikins House. These women are bound together by their time at Balmoral Hall as represented by the tartan.

And so, one day, many years from now, a Balmoral Hall Alumna will look back and say: *"I remember the opening of the Richardson Hall Athletic Centre and the Sifton Family Theatre."*

## Red House - Yellow Fire Escape Room - Bottom Bunk

*By Deirdre Malone '67*

The earliest incident I can remember was of my first breakfast in the Dining Room seated at the other end of the Head Table facing our then Head Mistress, Miss Murrell Wright. As the meal was passed around and those dreaded eggs, which I hated, were passed, I politely declined. *"Murrell's"* eye didn't miss it. *"Will you pass the eggs back to Deirdre please. She didn't get an egg."*

My voice had to reach all the way down that long lime green painted table, *"but I don't like eggs"* I squeaked. To my horror, the ball was returned, *"pass the eggs back to Deirdre please. She'll have an egg."* And that was just the way it was - boarding at BH in 1959.



**Deirdre Malone & Dritte**



## Farewell Message from Diane Bieber, BH 1978-1999

It has become almost a cliché to talk about change these days. Technology advances are inevitably referred to as "exponential." Communication is virtually instantaneous. For better or worse, cell phones and e-mail ensure that we are always connected. Biotechnologists view the "*slicing and dicing*" of genes as a routine undertaking. These are things that would have been difficult to comprehend when I took up my first position at Balmoral Hall as a Grade 4 teacher in 1978. Today, our youth regard them as totally unremarkable.

What will tomorrow bring? And how do you prepare young women to be ready for such a volatile future? At Balmoral Hall, we believe that you do it by creating an environment that responds to the way girls learn, one that offers a nurturing environment, excellent mentors and role models, as well as the finest curriculum and facilities. We set high standards for our students, but we recognize that each girl is an individual who will

progress differently. We encourage self-expression and intellectual exploration and, in this way, instill a love of lifelong learning. We offer an enormous diversity of extra-curricular opportunities both within the school and in the community to help expand horizons.

This fundamental girl-centered philosophy has served our students well for nearly 100 years. We move with the times, but we are always true to our core beliefs. We will always maintain the balance between tradition and progress in an environment that places girls at its heart. This remains true, even as society changes, and as people come and go.

This wonderful sense of continuity is tremendously gratifying to me as I leave Balmoral Hall. In my 21 years here as a teacher, as Head of Junior School, and, finally, as Head of School, I have observed first hand the way girls blossom in this atmosphere. I've seen how confident and competent BH graduates are, and how well prepared they are for the challenges of higher education, career and community life. It's been a real privilege to have had the opportunity to contribute to the formative years of so many remarkable young women.

While I look forward to the next stage of my life, I know I will miss Balmoral Hall. I offer my sincerest thanks to the Boards that have supported me, to

the wonderful teachers and staff I've had the privilege of working with, and to all of the girls throughout all of the years who have rewarded me with their successes. I'll always remember you with great fondness.

I wish Mrs. Sumerlus the best of luck as the new Head of School.



Diane with the Dickson family, 1994



**BH Creates an Environment that Responds to the Way Girls Learn**

1999 2000

## Events of Interest to Alumnae

### **November 16**

#### *University Fair*

featuring approximately 25 universities from across Canada. There will be displays and representatives in the School Atrium to answer questions & provide handouts. Students, parents, alumnae and staff are invited.

### **November 25 - 27**

#### *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown - Senior 2 Drama Class Production Art Display and Craft Sale*

Tickets on sale in November.  
Call 784-1600 for details.

### **December (TBA)**

#### *Holiday Get-Together*

For the Classes of 1996-99 & Senior 4 students

### **January 27 - 29**

#### *Arsenic and Old Lace - Senior 3 & 4 Drama Production*

### **February 20**

#### *BH Fashion Show*

### **March 8**

#### *International Women's Day* (watch for details!)

### **March 11**

#### *Parent Association Dinner/Dance & Auction at the Fort Garry Hotel*

### **April 26 - 29**

#### *Senior School Musical Production*

### **May 4**

#### *Grandparents' Day*

### **May 16 - 17**

#### *Grades 7, 8 & 9 Drama Nights*

### **May 2000**

#### *Alumnae Annual General Meeting / Spring Tea*

### **May 2000**

#### *Class of '90 Ten Year Reunion*

(contact us if you are interested in assisting with this reunion!)

### **May 31**

#### *Alumnae Luncheon for the Class of 2000 & Doll Assembly*

### **June 2**

#### *BH Invitational Golf Classic*

At Bel Acres Golf & Country Club



## From the Archives

### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**

#### **THE PLACE:**

Aikins House, Balmoral Hall School

#### **THE TASKS:**

Identify pictures and sort into decades

#### **TIME:**

A few hours, once a month or less

#### **INTERESTED?**

Call the Alumnae & Development Office at (204) 784-1614

#### **SPEAKERS**

There is a demand for Alumnae Guest Speakers to participate in classroom lectures. All interested are asked to call the Alumnae Office at (204) 784-1614 for more information.

## Alumnae Choir?

The music department at BH is recording its choirs for a Compact Disc celebrating the School's 100th Anniversary called "The Anniversary CD." We would like to make this project as inclusive as possible, so for all you Alumnae out there who sang in the Senior Choirs at BH.

Here is the question: Would you like to form an Alumnae Choir which would perform a couple of older favorites? If the answer is "Yes" please call the school at 784-1638 or Ditte Cloutier '66 at 284-7350 and give us your phone number. We hope to rehearse in January 2000 and record shortly thereafter.

Musically yours,  
*Lara Janzen, BH Music Teacher*



Alumnae AGM 1999

## *The Forties:*

### **Lois Mackenzie, Riverbend '41**

Writes "Congratulations on an excellent issue of the Portal. Great photograph of the school (ensemble) on the back cover."

### **Rosa M. Rayner, Riverbend '43**

Writes "I have been a member of The Order of the Holy Paraclete at Whitby in Yorkshire since 1950 and our community has, in the past 12 years, had exchanges with Sisters from the Society of St. John the Divine in Toronto. This year, however, the exchange will be for a whole year, and I have been asked to come to Canada for a year from the end of August 1999. I will be working with the Associates of the Sisters of S. John and also available to lead retreats as and when and where they are arranged."

### **Joan Newton, Riverbend '45**

Joan is looking for any alumnae information or e-mail addresses of her classmates. She can be reached at ntwt@aol.com

### **Anne (Bate) Holland, Rupert's Land '48**

Writes "Very glad to have found you on the net. I was a student at Rupert's Land School and College from 1945-1948 (first through fourth grade). Earlier my aunt, Olive Bate, attended and my cousin Natalie Bate. I believe Natalie's daughter Elizabeth is there. I married, moved to the USA, and became a CPA (University of Minnesota, 1970). Alas I lost my "A" pin several years ago but the memories last. I had friends at that time, Sheila Tremaine, Carolyn Cross and others, all boarding students with me."

## *The Fifties:*

### **Diane (Grindley) Hardwick '56**

Diane is looking for Arlene Phillips, who attended BH during the 1950-51 school year. If anyone has her address, please contact the Alumnae Office and we will forward it to Diane. We can be reached at (204) 784-1614 or bhalum@minet.gov.mb.ca

## *The Sixties:*

### **Pat (Glover) Bovey '66**

Has moved back to Winnipeg and been appointed Director of the Winnipeg Art Gallery.

## *The Seventies:*

### **Ashleigh Everett '74**

Was the Volunteer Chair of the Volunteers Division of the Pan Am Games, responsible for recruiting, training, recognizing and outfitting the 18,500 volunteers for the Games. Last year, Ashleigh was nominated for the YWCA Women of Distinction Awards.

### **Dawn Cain '74**

Is currently a Certified Dental Assistant/Office Manager in Victoria. She is also a Director and Swimming Coach with Special Olympics. She has 2 daughters - Lyndsay (22) and Kristen (13). Her pastimes include running (she did her first marathon in 1998); triathlons (she has completed 5) and travelling in their 5th wheel trailer.

## *Riverbend & Rupert's Land Alumnae*

*Please send your  
news & photos.*

### **Barb (Jacks) Davenport '75**

Writes "We moved to Okotoks 4 years ago and love living in the foothills of the Rocky Mountains. I operate my own food processing business specializing in confection products which are sold to gift basket companies and specialty food stores. We have 3 children Talia - 16, Taylor - 14, and Austin - 12. All keep our spare time filled with snow boarding, hockey and baseball games, and those are just the out of school sports. I have kept in touch with Fiona, Jill and Leslie and always love to read what's up with the other kids from our era. If you ever stop in Calgary in the summer, make sure you come out to Millerville Farmer's Market, stop by my booth, say hi and have a sample of one of Davenport's Tasty Sensations."

## *The Eighties:*

### **Nicola (Murray) Tory '80**

After living in London, England for the past 14 years, Nicola is returning to Canada. She will make her home in Toronto, Ontario. She has three children Madeleine (4), James (2 3/4) and Matthew (18 months) - a full-time job!

### **Susan (Graham) Scott '81**

Gave birth to her first child, a girl, Kaitlyn Graham Scott on June 23rd weighing 8 pounds 8 ounces. Kaitlyn's birthday falls on the same day as her father's.

### **Mary-Lea Horbay '84**

Had her Toronto condominium featured in the September issue of Chatelaine magazine.

### **Alison McLean '84**

Recently gave birth to her second son, William John, on June 13, 1999, a brother for Benjamin James who was born on September 8, 1996. Benjamin and William are the precious grandsons of Lynn McLean, former Head of Junior School.

Alison has recently established a desk top publishing home business.

### **Anna-Lisa Cohen '85**

Anna-Lisa or "Lisa" (as most of her friends have known her) completed a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree at York University where she could pursue her love of ballet and modern dance. After graduating, Anna-Lisa fulfilled a dream by performing with several dance companies throughout Toronto for the next five years. After 5 years of performing, Anna-Lisa decided to return to school and entered the University of Toronto to complete a second undergraduate degree in Psychology. Then she applied to complete her doctorate in Psychology and she accepted a position at the University of Victoria where she was offered full funding. Recently, she won a national science scholarship enabling her to pursue her thesis research which focuses on extending what is currently known about memory and aging. She hopes to complete her dissertation in the next two years. Anna-Lisa keeps in close contact with her former classmates Deidre Prosen, Cari Gray and Geills Andison. If anyone would like to contact her, please feel free to e-mail her alisa@uvic.ca.



## Jennifer (Thamer) Meister '85

"I could hardly contain my excitement when I returned home from doing errands this morning to find the Portal waiting in my mailbox. Much to my children's chagrin, lunch and juice had to wait until I absorbed each word and image. Suddenly the sentiment surrounding the "doll that looks like Mummy", the BH Blazer that still hangs in my closet, and the silver tray which I received as School Captain makes a bit more sense to Andrea (5) and Matthew (2 1/2). With many moves since university, BH had lost track of me so this was the first issue I had received in quite a while. In the ten years since I graduated from Carleton University I have worked in marketing, communications and public relations positions at various high technology companies throughout Ontario, including Cognos, CrossKeys Systems, Hummingbird Communications and Newbridge Networks. When not organizing trade shows, or writing brochures and press releases, I have been busy building a family! In 1991, I married Darren Meister of Collingwood, Ontario. In 1994 we had a daughter - Andrea and in 1996 a son - Matthew. We lived in Waterloo while Darren finished his PhD in Engineering at the University of Waterloo, and in 1994 moved to Ottawa.

In 1997, we moved to Kingston when Darren accepted a position as a Professor of Operations Management at the Queen's University School of Business. I took the move as a cue to stay home with Andrea and Matthew. Now I restrict my work to four months of the year when I teach Business Communications to first year business students at Queen's. Our door is always open to BH grads entering Queen's - there are always freshly baked cookies in the cookie jar! I would love to hear from any class of '85 alumnae and look forward to seeing them all at the school's centennial celebrations. I can hardly wait to see the changes that have occurred over the past 14 years. I wonder if that green van with "Happy Faces Going Places" painted on the side is still in use!  
jmeister@business.queensu.ca

## Carolyn (Seale) Scholz '86

Writes "My last contact I had with the school was in September 1996 on occasion of the 10 year anniversary of our graduating class. Since then my family and I moved to Waterdown, Ontario in May 1997 when my husband accepted a promotion with his company Criterion Research Corp. (in Toronto) where he is now Vice-President. William David Scholz joined our family on August 29, 1998 to keep his sister April (born July 16, 1995) company. As for me I am still enrolled at the University of Manitoba, working on my Masters thesis in the Department of Clothing and Textiles, long distance. (Jill Condra '86 kept

me company in the Grad Office for a few years while she got her Masters). It is quite a challenge, to say the least, to balance home life and academic work. I am researching the consumer behavior of women 55 or older towards clothing and have proposed to do 100 in person interviews. I sometimes have the feeling that I may qualify as one of my own subjects before I finish this thing. I would love to hear from any old classmates! My e-mail address is dscholz@inforamp.net.

## Tannis Scott '86

Had her third child, William, on May 17, 1999.



July 30, 1999

Margo & Gerassimos  
Lake of the Woods Wedding

## Margo Leach '87

"It has been anything but normal since we arrived home with many things going on, but more notably the Athens earthquake whose epicentre was about 11 kms from our home. Overall a few hundred buildings collapsed and over 100 people have died during the quake, and thousands of buildings have been quarantined for destruction or deemed un-livable without major reconstruction - leaving many communities to resemble the Kosovo refugee camps with all the tents set up where there is a rare piece of green space.

Luckily we live in an area with well built homes, so we don't see much damage - but a few companies which belong to friends unfortunately collapsed and they experienced some deaths, so it has been an emotional couple of weeks - heightened by the endless series of after shocks. Although the city was extremely chaotic for about a week, things are starting to settle down slowly. And in general, after the busy summer planning the wedding and the local Greek reception we had last week, we are definitely looking forward to a relaxing fall!!!"

## Susan Rich '87

Graduated McGill University Political Science 1991, Masters Degree in Children's Literature from Simmons College in Boston 1993. Susan is currently the editor for Harper Collins Children's Books in New York. She is now engaged to Josh Greenhut. The wedding will take place in Winnipeg in August 2000.

## Margo Anne (Adams) Larsen '88

Has received her Ph.D., in Clinical Child Psychology from Western Michigan University and is now living in Grand Forks, North Dakota.

## Mekhul Ramgoolam '89

Was recently appointed to the Executive Board of the International Association of Business Communicators, Manitoba Chapter.

## Takako Suzuki '89

Writes that she wishes she could have been at BH for the Class of '89 Reunion. She is thinking about her friends and her days at BH.

## Ju-Nee Yeo '89

"Since graduating from McGill University in Chemical Engineering, I have gone on to do my Masters in the same field. I am married and have settled down in Vancouver. I work for CanCap Pharmaceutical Ltd. in Richmond, helping with their Business Development."

### *The Nineties:*

## Deidre Collette '90

Graduated Magna Cum Laude with a Doctor of Chiropractic degree from Life University, Marietta, Georgia. She was awarded her degree during the convocation exercises in December 1998. "DC the DC" anticipates commencing her own Chiropractic practice in the Cayman Islands.

## Heather Jessiman '90

Is getting married to Chris Partridge on October 16, 1999 at St. Charles Country Club in Winnipeg. They are currently living in Toronto and will remain there following the wedding.

## Mira Sahay '90

Mira has returned to the stage with a new band and renewed enthusiasm for performing.

## Karen Shanski '90

Has just completed her Masters in Architecture at the University of Manitoba. She is currently in Amsterdam to "create new opportunities!"

## Rebecca Staunton '90

Is teaching History and Latin to Grade 9 and 10 boys at Upper Canada College in Toronto. She spent the last summer teaching an O.A.C. classical civilizations course in Crete. She was looking forward to having the summer off, getting to the cottage and hopefully doing some canoe tripping. Hello to all the girls in the grad class of '90 - especially Karen Shanski, Treena Hastings and Ardyth DeFehr!

## Jennifer Lukovich '91

Having attended the University of Winnipeg (Hons Science 1995) and the University of Toronto (Masters Physics 1996), Jennifer is currently completing her third year PhD in Atmospheric Physics at University of Toronto on a National Science and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) scholarship.

## Alexandra Johnson '92

Graduated from University of Manitoba Law in May 1999.

## Allison Boulton '93

Received her Bachelor of Commerce Degree after studies at the University of Victoria and Gadjah Mada University in Yogyakarta, Indonesia. Allison was recognized for "significant contributions made in promoting and developing the quality of life on the University of Victoria campus" and selected as a member of the Blue and Gold Circle of the University of Victoria. Allison is currently employed as External Relations Coordinator for the Faculty of Business at the University of Victoria.

## Louise Coyle '93

Graduated from UBC Hons Political Science in 1997 and has entered 3rd year law at UBC. She spent this past summer modelling in Thailand, Tokyo and Paris during the summer. Louise has been offered the opportunity to study at l'Université de Lyon in Paris, France.

## Jolene Harvey '93

Currently finishing her final year of the LL.B program at Osgoode Hall Law School in Toronto. In the fall of 2000, she will start as an Associate at a Wall Street law firm, Shearman & Sterling.

## Shaila Seshia '94

Graduated from UBC (Hons Political Science 1998) and is currently completing her Legislative Internship with the Province of British Columbia. She was the recipient of the Commonwealth Scholarship to complete her Masters in International Development at the University of Sussex. Shaila has also been accepted at the University of Chicago with a fellowship.

## Michelle Clark '94

Graduated from Princeton (Engineering) in 1998 and has just completed her first year of medicine at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C.

## Kimberley Westdal '94

Was the recipient of the Jon Sigurdsson Chapter IODE Scholarship. Kim enrolled in the University of Manitoba where she spent three years towards a Physical Education degree. In year 4 (1997/98) she was admitted into General Studies

in Continuing Education. She is now in her first year of Education in the After-Degree Program.

## Rebecca Lechman '95

Writes - "It's wonderful to see Balmoral Hall on the Internet. Every time I visit the site there seems to be more and more improvements. I recently attended BH's murder mystery evening. Everything was wonderful. The murder mystery was hilarious. As well, I saw more friends and classmates than I expected. Overall a success. The school's production of Agatha Christie's The Mousetrap was amazing. I'm involved in theatre so I could appreciate not only the wonderful show and acting but the time and energy that was put into the set, props, costumes, sound, lights, etc. Great Job!!! It is exciting to think that BH is almost 100 year old. Time flies. It seems like only yesterday that I was helping to pull back the huge curtain that was masking the tile wall at the 90th B-Day party. Right now I am dipping my fingers into many pots. As well as trying to keep up with BH, I am in my fourth year (it sure is taking a long time to finish) of Chemistry at the U of M. I am involved with the Black Hole Theatre on campus and have seen many grads come out to take part. I work at Tony Roma's downtown because the money's too good to leave and I tutor (Mrs. Baillie and Mr. Aston, this one's for you) Math and Chemistry 40S for a program called Upward Bound. I try to stay in touch with as many people as possible and I'm collecting e-mail addresses from my classmates. Last fall I

had an excellent time running a seminar on "spirit" at the Manitoba Student Leadership Conference and loved getting to know the new Prefects (and remembering some of the old ones). Keep up the good work. See you at the party in 2002.

### **Sarah Coyle '97**

Has been accepted into the summer program at Harvard. She entered her 3rd year B.A. Political Science at McGill University in September.

### **Vanessa Lee Wishart '97**

Is completing a fashion designing course in Toronto. She graduated in June 1999 and is advancing into costume designing this coming September in Toronto as well.



### **Alexis Cloutier '98**

"I returned this summer from a wonderful year in Ireland where I was part of the Gap Year Program. I was a volunteer teacher's aide at a prep (junior) school in Dublin. The school was a perfect base from which to explore Europe and I was always eager to take advantage of that. I was also able to explore the wonderful country that I called home. The Irish are the friendliest people and I'm missing the new friends that I made (especially my wee ones). I've entered first year at the University of Winnipeg and I'm enjoying being home."

### **Garry Hill '98**

Is attending Concordia this year. She is taking courses that will help her get into a computer science course next year. It is a degree in digital imaging, half the credits are from computer science and half from fine arts. It is very specialized so will be hard to get into it. This year she is majoring in math with courses in computer science, film, anthropology, sociology and of course math.

### **Sarah Lemoine '98**

Studied in England at the International Study Centre at Herstmonceux Castle as her first year at Queens. She will be returning to Canada for her second year.



### **Kristin Westdal '98**

Was the recipient of the Jon Sigurdsson Chapter IODE Scholarship. She is presently in her second year at the University of Manitoba and is planning a career in Veterinary Medicine.

### **Devan Laframboise '99**

Wishes to thank everyone involved in the academic and family based environment that she was so fortunate to be a part of for a job well done. Her experience at BH taught her to be strong with other females and also in her academic life. Wishing the best for all of you!

### **Aynsley Baldwin '99**

Is studying Science at the University of British Columbia where she was offered the Undergraduate Entrance Scholarship and the President's Entrance Scholarship.

### **Cara Bass '99**

Is studying University One at the University of Manitoba.

### **Crystal Bewza '99**

Is studying Computer Engineering at Queen's University.

### **Kristle Calisto-Tavares '99**

Is studying Arts at the University of Toronto.

### **Cindy Cheung '99**

Is studying at the University of Winnipeg.

### **Tara Davies '99**

Is studying Psychology at the University of Manitoba in preparation for the Faculty of Education.

### **Pam Delaquis '99**

Is studying Psychology at the University of Manitoba.

### **Pili Fernandez '99**

Is studying Business Administration in Mexico.

### **Johanna Forster '99**

Is studying Science at the University of Manitoba where she was offered the Hogg Centennial Entrance Scholarship.

### **Lyndsay Mann '99**

Is studying Arts at the University of Saskatchewan. Plans may include taking a year off to travel.

### **Susan Pritchard '99**

Is studying Micro-Chemistry at the University of Manitoba.



**Lindsay Ross-Stewart '99**  
Is studying Sports Psychology at Mount Allison and plans to play university soccer.

**Urmila Samanta '99**  
Is studying Engineering at the University of Manitoba where she was offered the Hogg Centennial Entrance Scholarship.

**Gunwant Sandhu '99**  
Is studying Science at the University of Winnipeg where she was offered the Chancellor's Special Entrance Scholarship.

**Jasper Sandhu '99**  
Is studying University One at the University of Manitoba.

**Rena Sharfe '99**  
Is studying Radio & Television Arts at Ryerson.

**Roberta Stephen '99**  
Is studying Business Administration at Bishop's University where she was offered a scholarship.

**Ashley Taillieu '99**  
Is studying at the University of Manitoba where she received an entrance scholarship.

**Jill Voth '99**  
Is studying Science in preparation for Medicine at the University of Manitoba.

**Robin Westmacott '99**  
Is studying Psychology at Carleton University where she was offered an entrance scholarship.

**Kathryn Zahradnitzky '99**  
Is studying at the University of Manitoba with a scholarship, and hopes to pursue Medicine or Business.

**Kathy Rogozinski '99**  
Is studying Arts at Queen's University where she has been offered the Chancellor's Scholarship to pursue a career in Journalism.

Kathy has had one of her poems published in Zygote, a magazine for youth writers, artists and poets. This is the first time she has had a poem published although she has been writing for 7 years. She says her poems were kept more private in the past, but now with an interest in the field of journalism, felt it was time to showcase them.

*Your notes used to fall down on me like a million rose petals,  
You sung them as though they were your last song,  
Oh how I loved to hear those melodies,  
But the last tune came too soon.*

*I wish you had given me a reason,  
Something I could hang on to,  
Now all I have are those faded pictures and distorted songs,  
They don't glimmer like they used to.*

*You always managed to paint the perfect pictures,  
They seemed to capture something, me?  
When you left, the pictures remained,  
You say they never meant much to you.*

*I wish you had given me a reason,  
Something I could hang on to,  
Now all I have are those faded pictures and distorted songs,  
They don't glimmer like they used to.*



She credits two of her teachers at BH for supporting her poetry. Both Mrs. Greenhill and Mrs. Lawrence have helped her during their English classes. Here is Kathy's poem, published in Zygote, Winter 1999 Young Writers Issue:



Left to right: Jocelyn Jennings, Lyn Stephen (Library Technician), Deborah Ginther, Mariel Wong, Malgosia Friesen, Laureen Johnstone, Brenda Halliday, Margaret Adams, Elaine Pidgen, Tracy Christie, Mona Yvon-Moreau, Lourdes Belik.

On June 25, 1999, a group of the library's Parent Volunteers, past and present, gathered for lunch at the Assiniboine Park Pavilion to bid farewell to Brenda Halliday, School Librarian for twelve years, who has moved to Toronto.

## Former staff

### Nathalie Gamache

Graduated from University of Manitoba in 1999 with Medical Degree and will be doing her residency in Obs & Gyn in Ottawa.

## Obituaries

**Vera Fryer, RLS '31,**  
January 1999

**Conrad S. Riley,**  
past Chairman of the Board,  
February 1999

**Mr. William Craig,**  
friend of BH and  
past grandparent,  
February 1999

**Enid Mary Alcock,**  
former staff and parent,  
July 1999

**Steven Fejes,**  
parent, July 1999

**Deborah Riley, BH '69,**  
August 1999

**Elizabeth (Elsie) (Stewart) Murray, RLS '34,**  
September 1999

**Audrey (Hanberg) Templeman, Riv '50,**  
September 1999

## **Parents & Alumnae Are Our Greatest Recruiters! Let's spread the word.**

Every parents' first concern about the education of their daughter, is that she gets off to a solid start.

Every parent wants the very best education for their daughter (just like you had!).

Every parent understands that what happens in the early years determines much of a child's future success in school and in life.

If you know of families considering Balmoral Hall:

- Discuss with them the many advantages of educating their daughter at Balmoral Hall School
- Share your BH experience with them
- Tell them about our website - [www.BalmoralHall.winnipeg.mb.ca](http://www.BalmoralHall.winnipeg.mb.ca)
- Encourage them to visit the school

Admission to Junior Kindergarten through Senior 4 (Grade 12) is taking place now!

Every year, we have fewer spaces available and competition for these spaces continues to grow.

For more information about the admission process, tours, curriculum and financial assistance, please contact Pamela McGhie, Director of Admissions at (204) 784-1621 or E-mail: [balmoral@minet.gov.mb.ca](mailto:balmoral@minet.gov.mb.ca)

## **Upcoming Open Houses**

Tuesday, November 9, 1999

Wednesday, January 26, 2000

Wednesday, April 25, 2000

All Open Houses are held from 12:00 - 1:30 p.m. and 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

**80% of new students are referred by you. Help someone you know make the BH Connection.**

Dear Diane & Staff:

*This letter is long overdue and my apologies for not writing to you sooner. I was very pleased to be able to visit the school as an Advisory Board member and was so impressed about what was going on in the school that I felt that I just had to write.*

*I would like to thank you and all of your staff for the kindness that was showed to the Advisory Board and also for the demonstrations in the computer lab, which was of particular interest. The feeling of vitality and enthusiasm in the school was palpable.*

*As an ex-parent, ex-board member, ex-chairperson, we look back on the Balmoral years with great pleasure, and indeed pride, and we would like to thank everyone there for all their support and encouragement over those very interesting years.*

*Importantly, we believe the decision to send Louise and Sarah to BH was probably the most important and most successful decisions we ever made. When we received the new edition of the Portal, we noticed many new faces, but also the continuing improvements and achievements of the school. We wish Balmoral Hall School continued success into the future.*

*Finally, Balmoral Hall can count on our continued support for all its ventures.*

February 25, 1999

Yours sincerely,  
Stephen and Monique Coyle



# BALMORAL HALL SCHOOL

FOUNDED IN 1901

*Balmoral Hall, a leading, contemporary all-girls school, is committed to a tradition of academic excellence. We educate, encourage and empower our girls and young women to achieve their personal best.*

*Educate - students to become independent learners.*

*Encourage - students to participate in new experiences - academic and co-curricular.*

*Empower - students with the knowledge and skills required to accomplish tasks independently.*

*Personal best - expect that each student will challenge herself to the best of her abilities and talents.*

*Whole child - encourage students to develop skills in learning how to relate to people, learning how to learn, and learning how to choose.*

## WE ARE A LEARNING COMMUNITY THAT VALUES:

- EDUCATING THE WHOLE CHILD AND FOSTERING INTELLECTUAL, ATHLETIC AND ARTISTIC ACHIEVEMENTS.
- NURTURING A POSITIVE SELF-IMAGE IN OUR STUDENTS - AN IMAGE GROUNDED IN STRENGTH OF CHARACTER, INDEPENDENCE, AND INTEGRITY.
- STIMULATING AND DEVELOPING OUR STUDENTS' DESIRE AND ABILITY TO LEARN.
- PREPARING STUDENTS FOR SUCCESS IN UNIVERSITY AND POST-SECONDARY STUDIES.
- DEVELOPING LEADERSHIP CHARACTERISTICS AND SKILLS THROUGH LEARNING ACTIVITIES.
- FOSTERING A LIFELONG COMMITMENT TO THE PURSUIT OF KNOWLEDGE.
- ENCOURAGING AN INDIVIDUAL'S COMMITMENT TO HER COMMUNITY.
- RESPECTING THE RIGHTS AND DIFFERENCES OF INDIVIDUALS.

Educate      Encourage      Empower

